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Ann Arbor Observer

November, 1979 Vol. IV, No. 3

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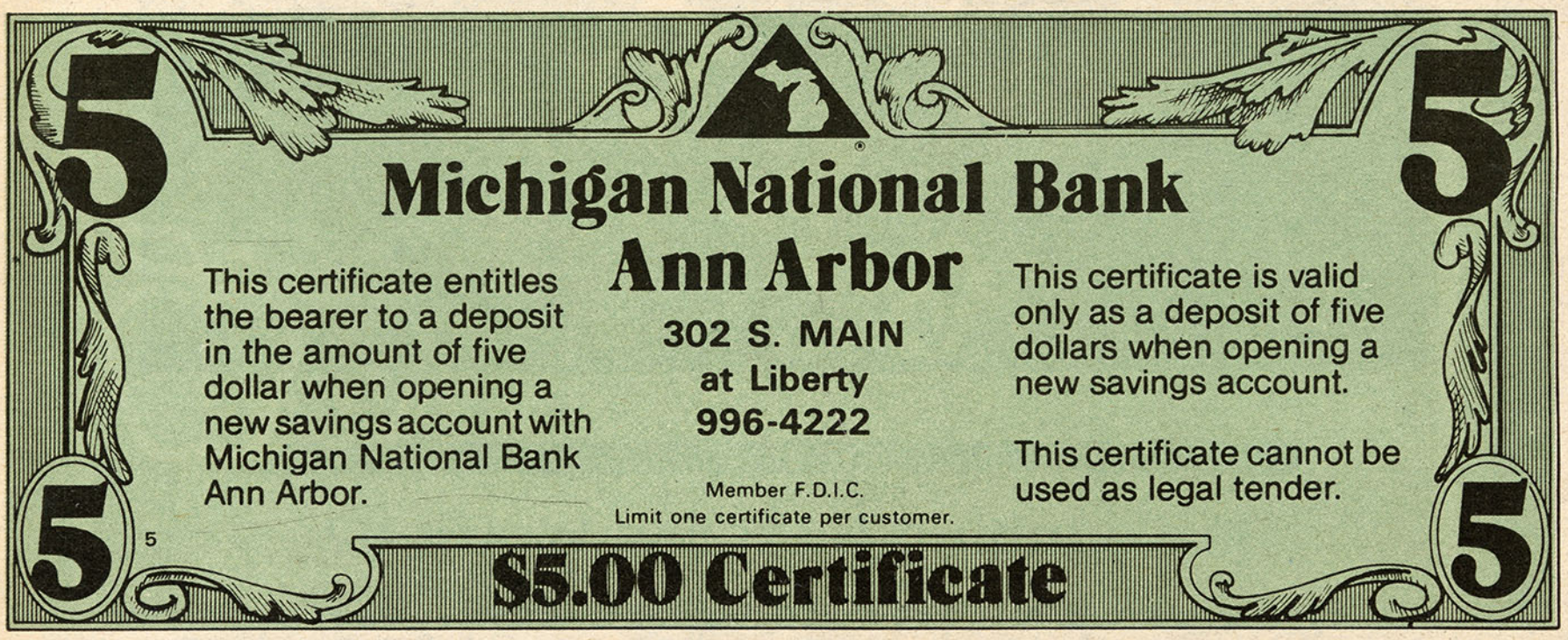
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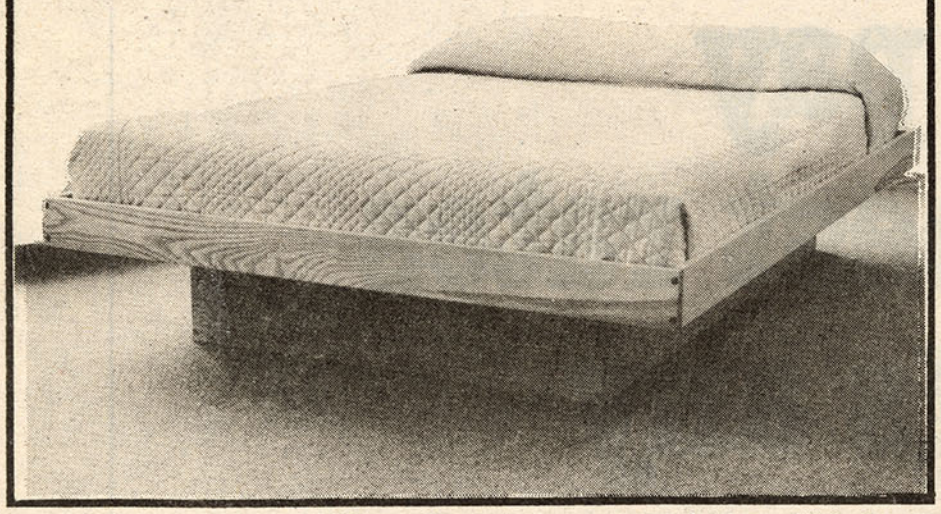

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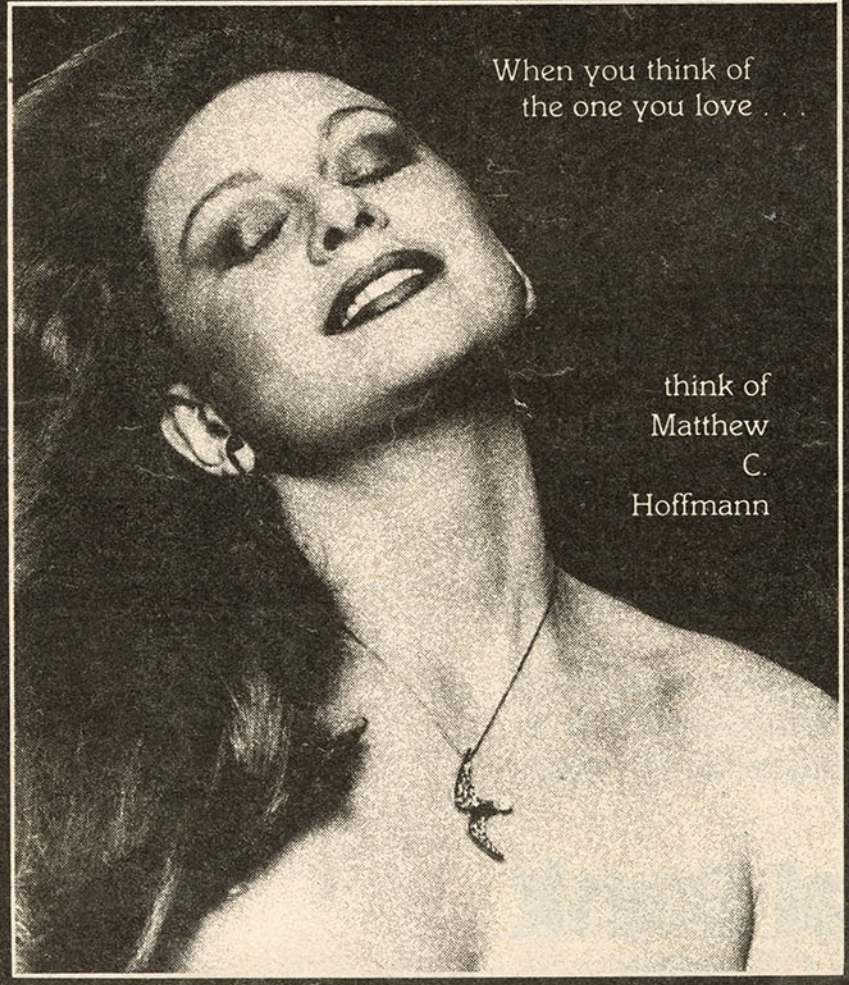

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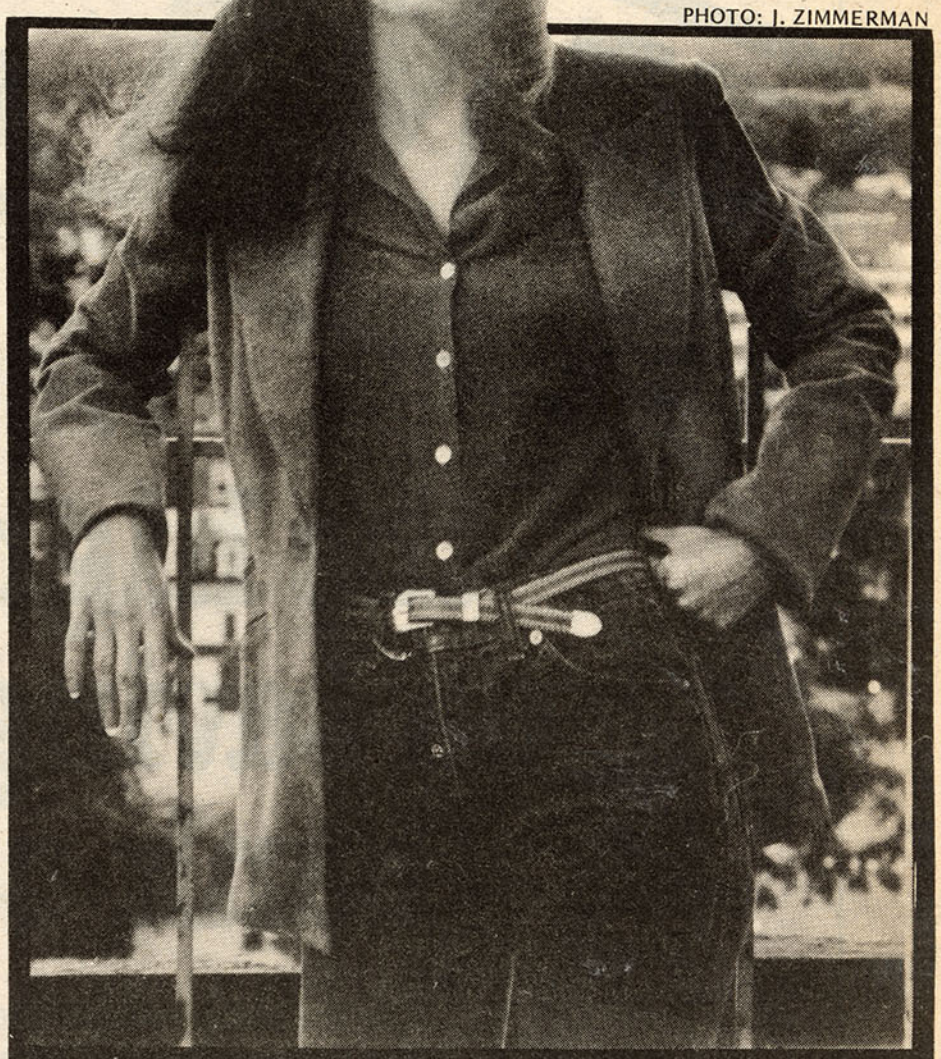

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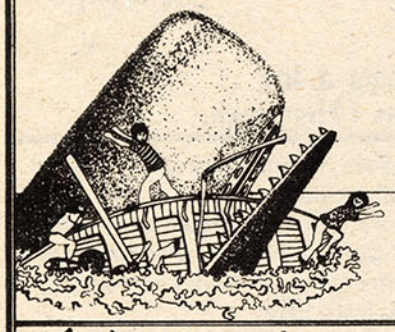
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Ann Arbor Observer

November, 1979

About our cover: Garish neon signs are a dying form of American pop commercial art in downtown Ann Arbor, to some people's disappointment. Photographer Joanne Rochon captured one distinctive vestige of this flamboyant art – the facade of the Flame Bar at 115 W. Washington.

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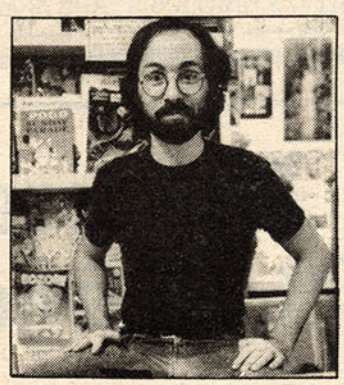

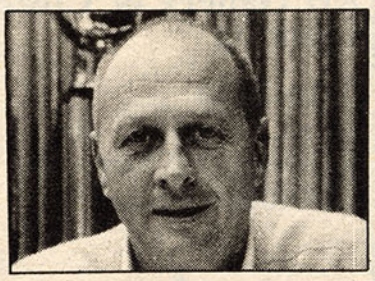

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LETTERS

Other WPA campus artworks.

I found your photos about "Legacies of the Depression" (those WPA projects and art works that were make-work projects for the unemployed) very interesting. Did Ann Arbor ever have a post office mural — perhaps the most common genre of WPA art? Are there other WPA-funded art works around town?

—Carol Goldberg

Jean Paul Slusser, then U-M art professor and head of the U-M art collection, was also head of a committee to choose local WPA-funded art projects for the U-M campus. He sends us this list: At the School of Dentistry, the mural decoration in the old Kellogg addition children's clinic and the stone memorial to Dr. Willoughby sculpted by Sam Cashwan of Detroit. In West Quad, painted and sculpted mural decorations in the general room. In addition, hundreds of prints were acquired by The University of Michigan which are now absorbed in its graphics collection.

Postmaster Richard Schneeberger says there was no mural in the post office.

Gandy Dancer was maligned.

Churchill's critique of the Gandy Dancer, seconded in the July issue by a Chicagoan who was surprised that a city of 100,000 can be outclassed by a city of 3,000,000, deserves some response.

Churchill's review was undeservedly biased to the negative even in her choice of words. She described the menu as "concocted," even though bouillabaise is a multi-ingredient dish, provencale is a garlic-tomato style of cooking, and boiling and broiling are well-defined cooking styles for fish.

She surprised me by arriving without reservations on Saturday night. I've never been shunted to the bar with reservations, although the same has happened elsewhere, including Chicago and New York.

Obviously, certain of her criticisms are well taken, although I personally have enjoyed their menu and service. Churchill's own unleavened distaste for the style of the restaurant makes it difficult to accept the rest of her review.

—Lester Ross

Wedemeyer address corrected

As several readers have pointed out, in 1929, Wedemeyer Radio (a photograph of which appeared in our October issue) was located at 210 East Washington, not 110. The building is now, drastically remodeled, incorporated in the two-story office building designed and in part occupied by Hobbs and Black architects. The still-remembered Washington Fish Market occupied the building across the alley from it for many years.

Reader's beef on seafood deal.

Normally I like your publication, but this month you had two articles that really ticked me off. Why give so much space and so many glowing adjectives to a restaurant that has an unfair edge on the competition, i.e. the Michigan League cafeteria. After all, the Michigan League doesn't have to pay income taxes or city and state property tax, and the cafeteria probably doesn't pay rent, either, being in a University building.

Along the same line, that frozen seafood outfit from Florida—what do they contribute to the city? They don't pay property tax, they don't sponsor softball teams, they just take their money and leave.

Publicity is valuable. It shouldn't be given to businesses that are less worthwhile than others, even though they may have low prices due to unfair advantages. I expect more from a community-minded publication like yours.

—H.A. McIntyre

Learns a lot from Observer.

I was born in Ann Arbor and have lived here all my life.

However, I have learned more about "my" town in the past two years by reading "the *Observer*" than I ever have by simply living here.

Your articles are informative, straightforward and honest. I very much enjoy the articles of long-standing local people.

— Margaret S. Splitt

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Commuting downtown? Try carpooling!

Ann Arbor Tomorrow will soon be embarking upon a new program designed with potential carpoolers in mind. Starting November 1, we will be offering our services to commuters working in the downtown area who are interested in carpooling.

The program, entitled "Who Me, Carpool?", will be organized as follows. To register, an employee should visit the Ann Arbor Tomorrow offices at 122½ East Liberty (above the Pretzel Bell) between 9:00 and 5:30 Monday through Friday and fill out a card with name, phone, address, nearest cross street and place of employment. When we get two or more people living in the same area, we will organize a meeting at our office so that you can all get acquainted. The rest is up to you.

Money in your pocket is the benefit of carpooling or sharing a ride. You save on monthly parking permits or meters, the cost of gasoline, upkeep on your car, and in some cases even on insurance. A 1978 study by the U.S. Department of Transportation indicated a savings of 50 per cent by sharing a ride with someone else and a 70 per cent savings by adding two more to your carpool, on a yearly basis. Other benefits can be preferential locations in parking structures, preference on parking lot waiting lists, and, best of all, the opportunity to meet others in your neighborhood who work in downtown Ann Arbor.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at 665-0621.

See you in a carpool!

— Diane Gutterman
Program Director,
Ann Arbor Tomorrow

More tips on Toronto trip.

I would like to correct an inaccurate statement made in your October column concerning Canadian banks (Train Trip to Toronto). Most banks *are* closed on Saturdays, but, the Royal Trust Bank *is* open Saturdays. It is located at 315 Ouellette Avenue, on the west side (bridge) of the street. Furthermore, it is the only bank in Windsor that I know of that is open at 9:00 a.m. on any day of the week. All the other banks (T-D, Scotia, Royal, etc.) open at ten. This is helpful if one wants to take the 10:30 train.

If one is leaving during the week, the best bet is to leave the car at home, take the morning Amtrak "Michigan Executive" to Detroit, pick up the D.O.T. commuter bus waiting for your train at the Michigan Central Station and ride downtown. You arrive in Detroit at about 7:50. which gives you time either to have a leisurely breakfast in Detroit or Windsor, plus a stop at Windsor's Royal Trust before making your way to the Via Rail Station. To get to Windsor from downtown Detroit, get on the tunnel bus from the National Bank of Detroit side of Kennedy Square or from the tunnel entrance.

— James R. Greenshields

WE REGRET that we may not have space to print all letters received.

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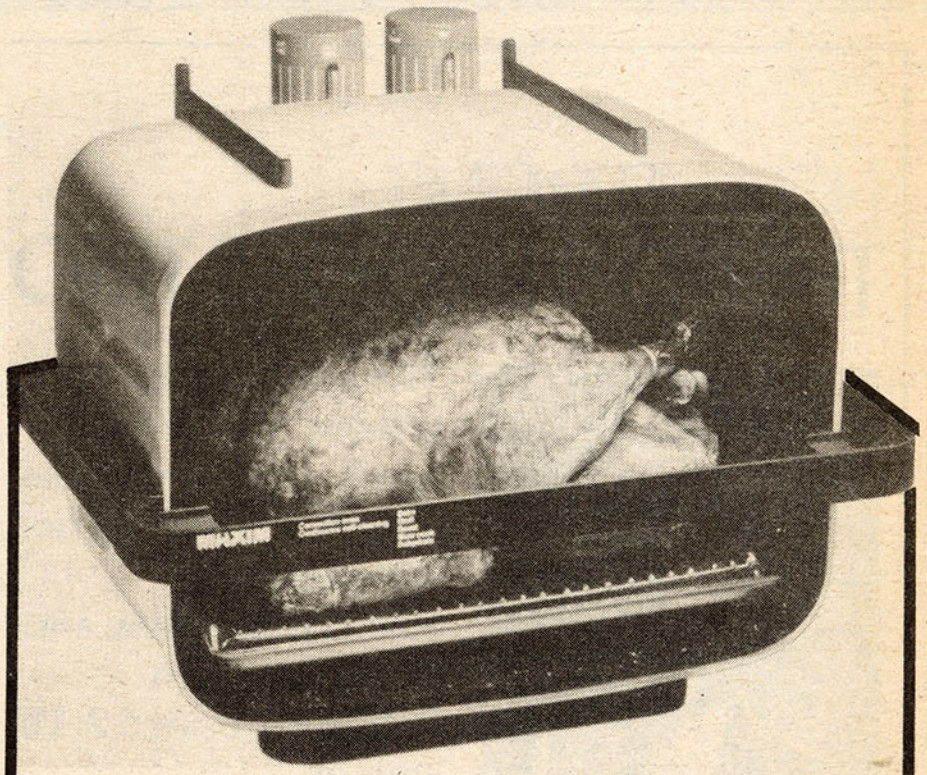

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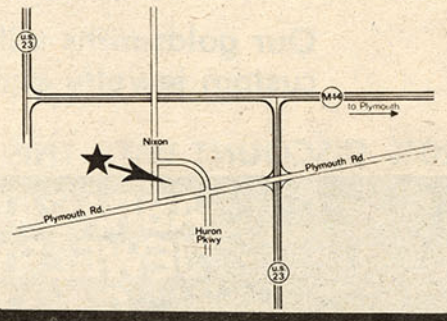

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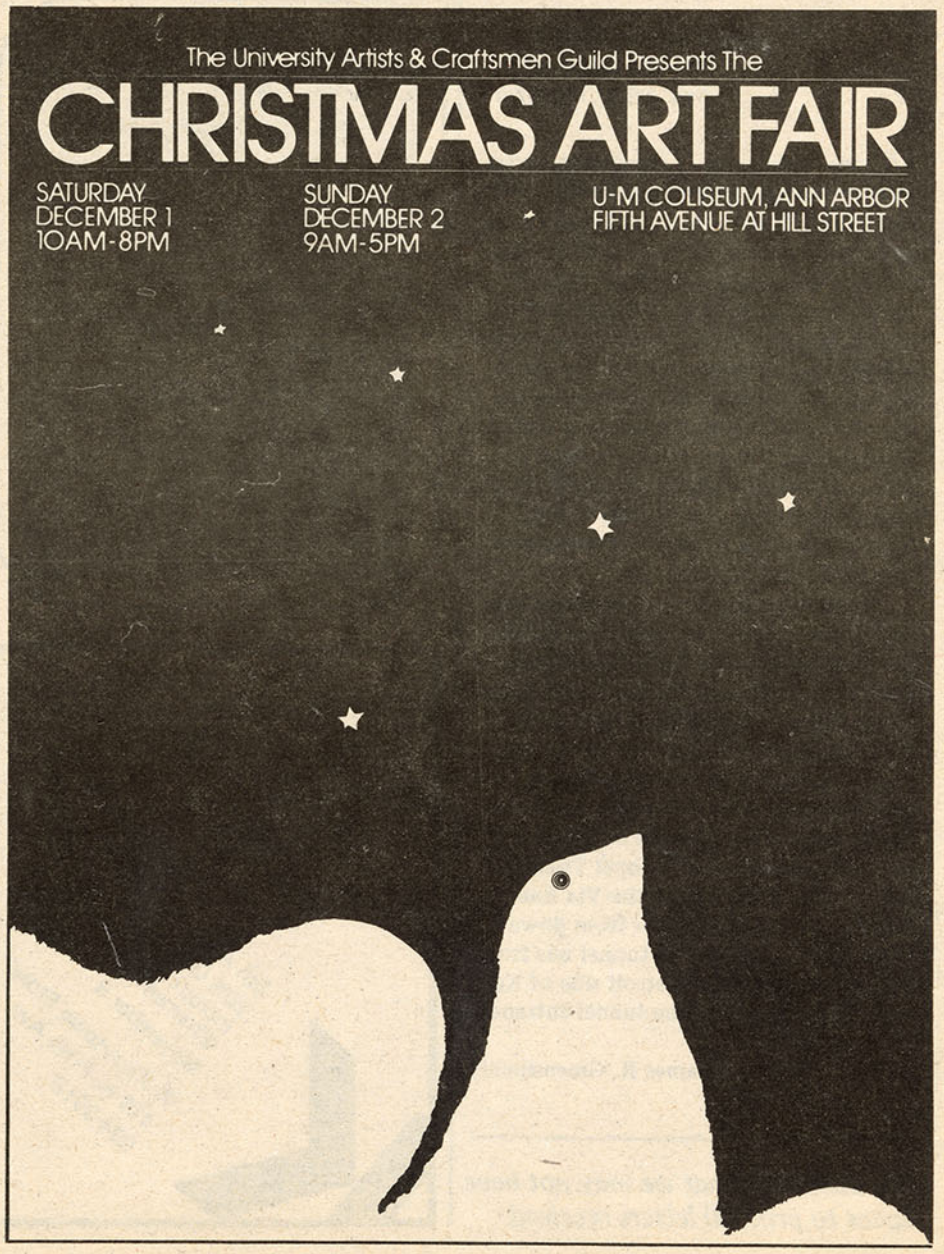

AROUND TOWN

Rent a rusty but trusty car.

Peter Yates

If you've been downtown recently, you've probably seen the hand-lettered flyers tacked to nearly every available telephone pole and bulletin board: "DRIVE-A-DEAL. Rent cheep! $10 a day. 'Rusty but trusty.' Call 668-6172."

Cary Walker, 28, who claims to be a real estate salesman, electrician, and former S.D.S. organizer, is the man behind Drive-a-Deal, we learned. He had heard from friends that used car rental places were doing well on the West Coast. (A while back there was an article on a firm called Rent-a-Wreck, in *Time*.) It seemed to Walker that Ann Arbor is ripe for such an operation. "Well, gosh, a lot of people here don't have automobiles but need them once or twice a month," he told us. "Well, heck, this is the place to set it up." Walker felt he was well qualified to start a used car rental business, being mostly unemployed and a good mechanic. He says he can fix "anything from an airplane to a color TV set."

Walker believes his cars are very reliable. He spends a lot of time working on them. His business mentor, a man in Ferndale who rents both new and used cars, says his new cars break down more often than the old ones.

The Drive-a-Deal fleet currently consists of two 1967 Chrysler Newports. The more recent acquisition has an automatic transmission and upholstery in excellent condition. The other car "looks as though a dog ate the interior," according to Walker, but, with a manual transmission, it is somewhat less of a gas guzzler.

The greatest problem Walker has confronted so far in starting up his new business has been finding someone who would insure his cars. Local insurance agents thought he was crazy when he came to them seeking insurance for a car rental fleet consisting of vehicles made when Lyndon Johnson was President. Where Walker found insurance is a secret he would not divulge, feeling that potential future competitors might be dissuaded from entering the business by the difficulty of obtaining insurance.

Walker charges $10 a day for his cars. The first fifty miles are free; after that you pay five cents a mile, "the lowest mileage charge in the biz," as Walker put it. With the car the renter gets a full tank of gas. When the car is returned, Walker and the customer drive to a gas station, where the customer pays to have the tank filled. Walker learned a lesson the first time he rented a car. When the customer returned the car, he claimed to have filled the tank, but Walker later discovered that he had to spend $6 to fill it up, which did not leave much profit from a ten-dollar bill.

A deposit is also required, exacted on a sliding scale according to age. If your age is under 21, the deposit is $100. Between 21 and 25, it's $75. Over 25 you only have to leave $50. The deposit scale follows his mentor's experience that teenagers did not return cars if only $50 was charged.

When we talked to him, Walker had only been in the car rental business for two weeks, but already he was talking of expanding his operation to Ypsilanti and Lansing. First, though, Walker intends to increase his Ann Arbor fleet to ten cars. The major obstacle confronting him at the moment is one facing most fledgling businesses: financing. Walker is flat broke, though his grandmother in Florida has promised to lend him some money, and he's expecting some cash from a real estate deal.

Having limited resources until grandma and the real estate company come through, Walker has been forced to skimp on his advertising budget. His total expenditure so far has been $6 — $5 for 300 flyers and the rest for glue and tacks. □

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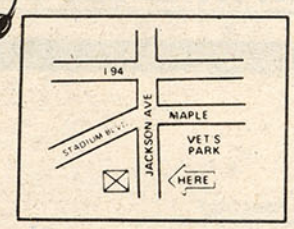

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ANN ARBOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Ann Arbor's Community Development Office presents the Nov.-Dec. schedule of CDBG* Citizen Advisory Committee meetings. There are three Neighborhood Strategy Area Committees, (Northside , Central and Southeast) and an Executive Committee for city-wide activities. All committee meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. and are open to the public. Call our office at 994-2912 to verify dates and agendas.

MEETING DATES	
Central NSA Committee	Nov. 13, Dec. 4 - Fire Station
Northside NSA Committee	Nov. 13, Dec. 4
Southeast NSA Committee	Nov. 13, Dec. 4
Executive Committee	Nov. 5 - Fire Station

C D

Committee agenda items include:
Review of Neighborhood Facility Plans, Physical Improvement Projects, Public Service Evaluations, CD Program Evaluation.
All agenda items are tentative.

*Community Development Block Grants are authorized under the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended.

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AROUND TOWN/continued

The unending saga of the Tenants' Rights Booklet.

In the April, 1978, city election, Ann Arbor voters approved, by a 2 to 1 margin, a city charter amendment requiring the city to publish and local landlords to distribute a new "Tenants' Rights and Duties" booklet. The booklet was to be written in equal thirds by tenant representatives, landlord representatives, and the city itself.

Seventeen months later the new booklet has yet to see its first printing. City Attorney Bruce Laidlaw reports that he just recently received drafts of the landlord and tenant portions from the appointed representatives of the two groups.

The yet-to-be-published booklet is intended to avoid problems that had accompanied the previous Tenants' Rights Booklet. The earlier version, created by city council ordinance in 1973, was subject to periodic, heated debate over language changes recommended by landlord or tenant groups.

Some of those past battles seem quite petty. Landlords wanted the booklet to use the terms "lessor" and "lessee," instead of "landlord" and "tenant," because those are the terms most leases use. Tenant representatives claimed this was just another attempt to confuse tenants and make the booklet less effective. At one point, landlord groups were successful in getting the Republican majority on city council to strike from the booklet any reference to the Ann Arbor Tenants Union (AATU). They said the AATU was just interested in causing trouble and shouldn't be listed as a source of assistance for tenants.

The new version was supposed to avoid all the hassle by giving landlords and tenants their own sections of the booklet to say whatever they want. Oddly enough, Laidlaw says much of the delay has been caused by landlords and tenants trying to agree on as much language as possible. The two sides, hoping to avoid duplication and confusion, have asked Laidlaw if he would use their agree-upon language as the city's "neutral" section.

Even when the booklet's text is finally decided, the book may not have clear sailing. Last year, a group of local landlords filed suit to block the amendment's implementation. The city is free to produce and distribute the new booklet while the litigation is still pending, but a ruling by Circuit Court Judge Patrick Conlin is expected in the not-too-distant future.

With all the trouble and effort expended on the new booklet, some Ann Arborites might be tempted to ask if it's all worth it. The existing booklet has been distributed to tenants for over six years. It contains information about tenants' legal rights, about some city code requirements, and about where tenants can go to get further information and help.

The city has never attempted to enforce the ordinance requiring landlords to distribute the booklet. It carries a fine of up to $500 for violations. Still, a fairly high percentage of landlords do comply.

In fiscal year 1978 - 79, the city clerk printed and distributed approximately 13,000 booklets. The city has about 23,000 rental units in all. Of course, the tenants in many of these apartments stay for more than one year, and landlords are not required to give them a new booklet each time they renew. It seems likely, therefore, that a healthy majority of new tenants are receiving the booklet.

There is no precise way to measure the booklet's effects, but several city officials are convinced that it makes a difference. Bill Yadlosky, supervisor of the city's Housing Bureau, says, "I think there's a high level of awareness of the booklet on both sides. We get a lot of calls from people about things they've read in it." Yadlosky says many tenants who call his office with complaints cite specific sections of the book that address their problems.

City Councilwoman Leslie Morris, whose Second Ward population is over 90% tenants, doubts that many tenants read the book very carefully, at least initially. She says tenants are often unaware of things their landlords are doing wrong. But when an obvious problem crops up, the booklet helps explain their rights and tells them where to go for help.

The ACLU sets up a fund-raising office.

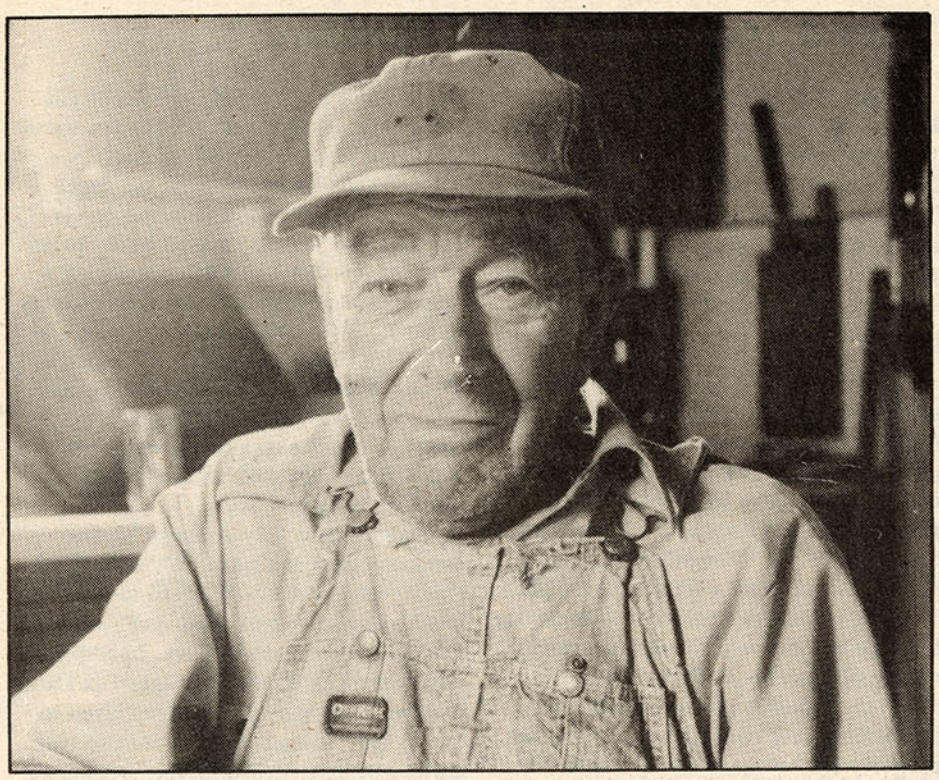
Local civil libertarians may be asked to put their money where their sympathies are in the next few months. The American Civil Liberties Union Fund of Michigan has opened an office in Ann Arbor and is beginning extensive fund-raising efforts. The ACLU Fund is the tax-exempt arm of the ACLU, which is itself not tax-exempt because it engages in lobbying and legislative activities. The ACLU Fund, on the other hand, supports only educational programs and the organization's well-known litigation activities.

Although the attorneys who handle ACLU cases generally donate their time, the many other expenses involved in pursuing a court case must be paid for by ACLU funds.

The headquarters of the ACLU of Michigan are located in Detroit, but there were at least two good reasons for opening the Fund office here. First, local attorney Don Koster donated free office space. Second, the salary of Development Director Kathy Lawson is being funded by the Ann Arbor Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) program. In addition to funding jobs in government, CETA federal funds also support positions in community organizations.

The office's initial activities will focus on Washtenaw County. However, this is the only ACLU Fund office in the state, and fundraising will soon be conducted throughout Michigan.

Farmer Harold Wing won't sell.



Kathy Friedrichs

A recent Washtenaw County planning report states that if present trends continue, there will be no more farm land in the entire county by the year 2000. But if the area's existing farmers have the same attitude of Harold Wing, whose farm is just west of town, this dismal prediction won't come true.

Harold Wing could make a half-million dollars were he to sell his farm today. But Wing's head isn't turned by land values that could make him rich overnight. "They're crazy prices," he says, sitting around the kitchen table in the farmhouse he built forty years ago for $7,000. "Money isn't worth anything anymore. If I sold that land, I'd pay it all back in income taxes anyway." Besides, he would rather "work the land," says the 87-year-old farmer, his face tan and weathered from years of working the land, his blue overalls and flannel shirt faded by the sun.

Wing bought his present farm at the corner of Zeeb and Dexter-Ann Arbor Roads in 1918. At one time his land totalled 374 acres (including property on Miller and West Delhi Roads). Reluctantly he has sold some of it in recent years. "The 40 acres I sold for the subdivision (near Zeeb and I-94) was gravelly soil, not much good for farming . . . and I had to sell the land around the Edison station (on Miller) or they would have condemned it," states Wing. He now owns 185 acres of prime land in Scio Township, and he has no intention of selling.

Many problems make it difficult for modern family farms to survive, Wing told us. The high cost of machinery, repairs, and fuel are a few. Co-existing with the sprawling suburbs has its own set of problems, such as loose dogs killing off Wing's sheep. But Harold Wing and his son Leroy are determined to keep their land in corn, wheat, hay, oats, and beef cattle as long as they can make a living.

Taxes are the real problem for the Wings today. For the last two years they have had to take money out of the bank to pay the $8,300 in annual property taxes.

The Wings' biggest hope is in a new state law. The law states that if a farmer keeps his land in agriculture for ten years, and if his taxes are more than 7% of his household income, he will receive a rebate on his taxes. Wing's son, Leroy, who does most of the farming now, has signed up for this program. So for at least the next ten years, the Wings' land should continue to be farmed.

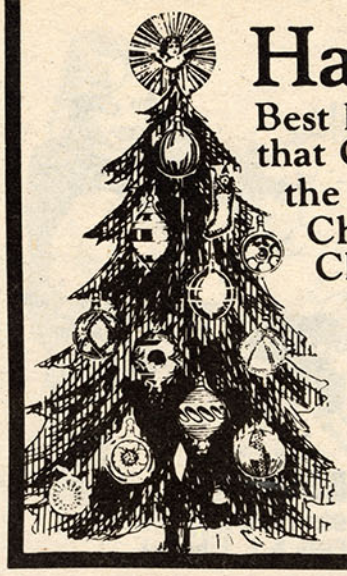
Farming has been the Wings' main occupation since Harold's grandfather James arrived from England in 1809. James built the Wing house on West Delhi Road, where he bought the land for $12 an acre. The going rate for farmland around Ann Arbor today is about $5,000 an acre.

"My grandfather spoke the Indian language," recalls Wing, "and my father played with the Huron Indian boys. I worked the land when I was old enough to reach up to the walking plow."

Harold Wing's deep blue eyes shine when he tells his stories from the "old days." One of his favorites is about catching wild hogs along the road as they drove their pigs "by hand" to the Detroit market. And he revels in the fact that his grandfather was smart enough not to "lose his shirt" when the woolen mill owners in Delhi went bankrupt. James Wing went into the mill the day before they actually declared bankruptcy and took the money they owed him in woolen goods (made from *his* sheared sheep). He then sold the goods himself. Wing said his grandfather got requests for years afterwards for more of that high quality wool.

Not only does Wing know some interesting stories, but he has also been known to compose poetry while riding a tractor. He has read a few of the poems at Grange Hall meetings.

Most days in spring or summer, Harold Wing can still be seen in his denim jacket and green cap driving a tractor. "I'd rather die sitting on my tractor than lying around some hospital," he says.



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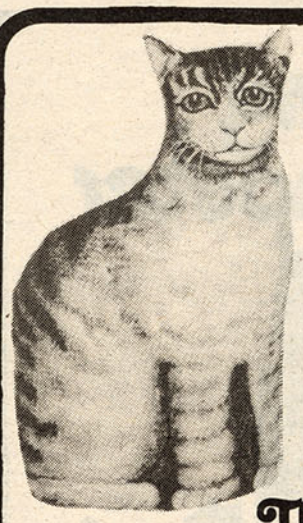

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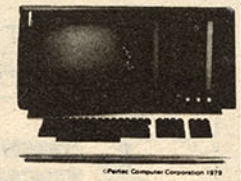

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AROUND TOWN/continued

"Never trust a smiling Canadian."

A kind of gallows humor has developed among the employees of Sycor, Inc., the locally-founded computer hardware firm. The firm's new owner, Northern Telecom Systems Corporation (NTSC), a huge Canadian company, has announced plans to lay off at least 600 employees, largely manufacturing and production personnel.

Several Sycor employees have responded to the impending job losses by poking fun at their soon-to-be-former employer on T-shirts they wear to work. One shirt depicts a computer terminal, Sycor's main product, and the slogan "No Tomorrow, Sycor Cancelled." The other bears the legend "Never Trust a Smiling Canadian."

While some Sycor employees are trying to laugh at their predicament, a number of city officials see nothing humorous about the reduction in the firm's local operations. City council has granted two property tax breaks to Sycor under the state's Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption law, designed to encourage companies to locate or expand operations in Michigan communities.

Under the law, a company receives a 50% reduction in property taxes for twelve years. In 1978 and 1979 alone, this has meant a $46,000 tax saving to Sycor. This figure would grow in 1980, when Sycor's expanded main facility is supposed to begin receiving the tax break.

Mayor Louis Belcher, originally one of the prime proponents of the tax break, is naturally disappointed that Sycor is reducing its local employment by 40 to 45 per cent just two years after receiving a tax incentive designed to induce it to stay in town. "Obviously, it disturbs me," he said. "We've only given two of these tax breaks. This was a locally-owned company, and it looked like it was going to stay." (The other tax break was given to Jac Products, a plastics manufacturer located on Ellsworth Rd.)

According to City Assessor Wayne Johnson, there is a possibility that Northern Telecom is not entitled to the tax break given to Sycor. He is currently checking out that possibility. In addition, city council could ask the State Tax Commission to revoke the tax break given to Sycor. City council may not be too willing to continue such favorable treatment for a company that's laying off hundreds of local workers.

Belcher, for one, isn't taking a position yet on continuing the tax break. Northern Telecom officials have told him that they will keep 900 jobs here, but the mayor doesn't want to take any chances. "The tax break is our last bargaining chip. I want to save as many jobs as we can."

Radio station WPAG is forced to change.

Since July, local radio listeners have had the choice of two WPAG's, instead of just one. Until that time, WPAG-AM and WPAG-FM had broadcast the same programming, in what is known in the business as a "simulcast" operation. Now WPAG-FM has a country-and-western format, under the direction of Mary Ellyn Cain, while the AM side continues the popular music and comment format it has had for many years.

The change was brought about by an order of the Federal Communications Commission in Washington. The FCC requires single-owner AM and FM combinations in cities of 50,000 population or more to have separate programming at least 75% of the time. The purpose of the rule is to increase the options available to radio listeners and to make better use of the limited number of broadcast licenses available.

Although Station Manager Jim Baughn says the change is welcome, he admits that it will probably be some time before the new FM operation breaks even. The changeover has been quite costly, involving the addition of five new employees, transmitter alterations, and new equipment to convert the former production studio into an on-the-air studio.

News Director Ted Heusel, whose midday "Community Comment" show is probably Ann Arbor's best-known radio program, is also somewhat concerned about the change. Heusel's show is now heard on AM only, which makes reception much more difficult for some listeners, particularly those in downtown buildings such as City Hall.

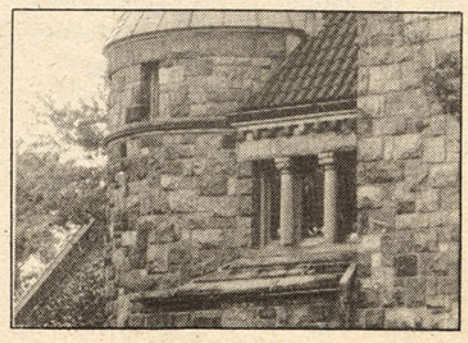
Test of the Town.

Last month's Test of the Town was the tower portion of the Perry Building at 330 Packard at Division. Now a U-M office, it was erected as the W. S. Perry Elementary School. R. A. Schweitzer, an employee of the Center for Research on Social Organization whose office is in the tower, wrote us, "Perry is a wonderful old building, and we wouldn't trade it for any other."

You have a chance to win November's Test of the Town and receive a record of your choice from the Liberty Music Shop, 417 East Liberty, *if* you can identify the location of the mystery photo correctly.

Please mail your answers to Ann Arbor Observer, 206 South Main, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104. Hand-delivered entries will be disallowed. From the pool of correct entries two winners will be drawn.

–Bob Breck



A delicious rarity: hand-dipped chocolates.

It would be nice to think, when tasting a fine piece of chocolate candy, that it came from the kitchen of a devoted and professional confectioner who supervised its every ingredient. Someone so dedicated to quality, and working in such small quantities that he or she could afford to discard a batch of filling that wasn't just quite right.

Given that most chocolates, even expensive ones, are made in a factory assembly-line setting (Godiva Chocolates, for example, are now part of the conglomerate which controls Campbell's Soups), we were naturally intrigued by ads advertising "Virginia's Hand-Dipped Chocolates" at Buster's Food Mart and Complete Cuisine. We wondered if there were a real Virginia behind the elegantly-boxed chocolates we found on display at these stores.

A few phone calls and a luscious quarter-pound of chocolates later, we found ourselves in the East Ann Arbor home of Virginia Lewis Herman and her husband, David, who handles the business end of "Virginia's Hand-Dipped Chocolates."

Over a glass of champagne and, happily for us, more chocolates, Virginia and David related just how they came to be *chocolatiers.*

"I always liked to cook," said Virginia, "and candy was a real challenge. I watched, I read, and I practiced a lot of years. It's something I enjoy doing. It's nice to have a job that's like play," she added. "It's every kid's dream to have a candy store."

They are really partners in two businesses. In their other business, Expert Porcelain Repair Company, it is Virginia who handles the "office," while David makes the house calls, repairing sinks, bathtubs, and the like. "Our real energies are in the candy business now," says David. "Fixing a bathtub is our bread and butter, but in that line you're dealing with people who are complaining, upset. When you give someone candies, they're thrilled."

Virginia notes that chocolate dipping is a tricky art. It requires climate-controlled production quarters (chocolate will not set well if it is too humid or hot) and lots of trial-and-error learning. She works alone in a commercial kitchen where she leases space, chopping all her nuts, candying all fruit peels herself, grating the chocolate liquor (pure cocoa bean and cocoa butter), which she then combines in various proportions with other ingredients to form coatings and centers. Paraffin, which is added to most commercial chocolates for sheen and long shelf-life, finds no place in her pantry, nor do preservatives of any sort.

She creates her chocolates out of a repertoire of what she herself likes — which means that all her chocolates have a dark, bittersweet chocolate coating. Her recipes are culled from many sources. "We used to live in Toronto," she says, recalling the fine quality of the candies she sampled there in her efforts to reproduce them. "I just cut a swath through the places there where Germans and Belgians made candy." This is a profession in which one can buy a box of chocolates for tasting and legitimately label it a business expense!

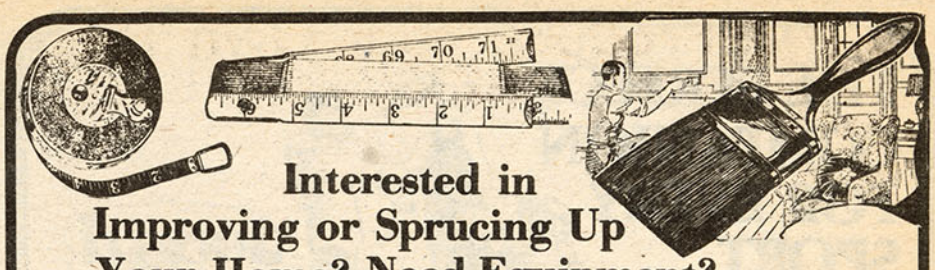
Virginia's chocolates have come a long way from her non-professional days when she would ask David to go out and get yet another sack of sugar when the fondant (cream centers) failed, and from the time she visited a friend who remarked "how beautiful the chocolates were, all swirled with grey streaks." (They had "bloomed," that is, the fat content had streaked the surface.) She has been retailing the candies in Ann Arbor since summer, and she makes her candies in quantities designed to meet the demands of her outlets, Buster's, Complete Cuisine, and the Alpen Pantry at Briarwood.

Working in small batches, and with only first-quality ingredients, she turns out chocolates which are good to look at and even better to eat. Each four-ounce ($2.95) and eight-ounce ($4.95) assortment contains orange, maple, and vanilla creams; plain (a misnomer for this rich confection!) and hazelnut truffles with rich chocolate centers; exquisite translucent chocolate caramels sinfully encased in a chocolate shell; and solid "chocolate cups" laced with chopped hazelnuts or a crystalline nugget of candied orange peel. Compared to fine European chocolates at around $18.000 a pound, the prices and the product constitute a mouth-watering bargain.

Future additions to her assortments may include pineapple creams, toasted coconut cups, and a chocolate filled with a hybrid of marzipan and almond cream.

In case you wondered, both Virginia and David are *thin.* "I just taste the things I'm testing. I'm less addicted to candy now that I work with it all day," says Virginia, adding that by the end of her work day her hair, body, and clothes are heavily perfumed with cocoa.

David seems to worry more about his weight, since he tastes all the chocolates willingly and repeatedly. Virginia smilingly notes that the cook is not responsible for people overindulging.



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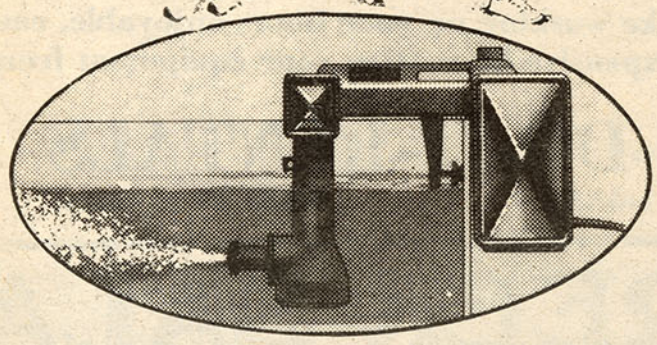

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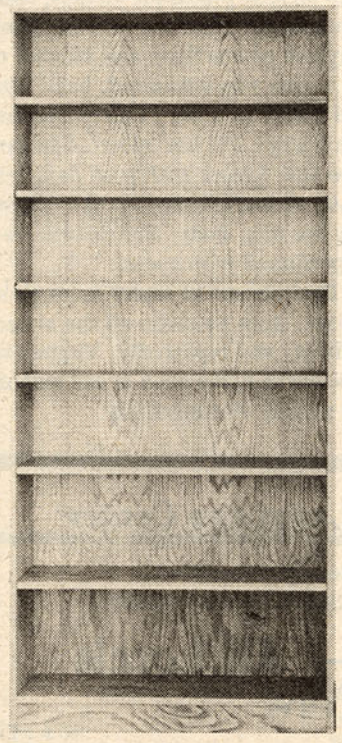

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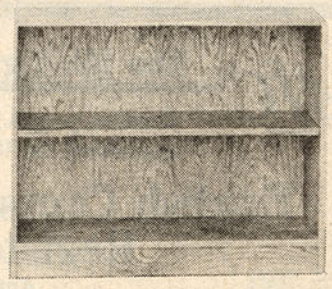

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WHERE ARE WE NOW?

We've seen somber times in this country over the past two decades: assassinations, riots, Vietnam, Watergate, and the energy crisis.

As we enter the Eighties, where do we stand as a result of all that turmoil and disillusionment? We asked seven socially-concerned Ann Arborites what trends they see in American society today.

By Ed Walters

"I'm not sure if it qualifies as a movement, but I see an awful lot of people whose consciousness was shaped during the Sixties doing a lot locally, in small towns around the country, in the way of alternative work."

Jim Cruz

Education professor Zelda Gamson laments today's uninspired college students.

Professor Zelda Gamson has watched the rise and fall of student activism over the last two decades with professional scrutiny. Her major work at the U-M School of Education's Center for the Study of Higher Education concerns the process of innovation in academic institutions and the role of student activism in society. Hurrying from an afternoon class, Professor Gamson, who is a self-described 'child of the Fifties,' arrived at her Residential College office to spend the free time before her next lecture. She explained her concern that the activism of the late Sixties will die out unless it can recruit support from succeeding generations.

"Kids today have a real lack of verve and a lack of optimism. It's not like the Fifties. I was in college then, and we were concerned about our education and which jobs we could get, but it was an optimistic time, the economy was expanding, and we were excited about our studies. Among the students today, the undergraduates who I encounter, there is a sense that there is not very much hope, and much less optimism than I saw among students during the Sixties."

Gamson sees the present decade as a critical time for American society. She is not sure that the Sixties' alternatives to traditional work or life-styles can survive.

"On one hand, I see a lot of interesting ideas and activities going on locally, with some attempts on the part of young people to form regional and national organizations. On the other hand, I see a lot of floundering at the center of our national policy-making and a lot of probably bad intentions and a tremendous centralization of power in large-scale business organizations.

"I've been doing research recently on alternative work organizations and the reform of work," Gamson explains. "In 1978 a group of students from the Residential College and I did a very intensive semester-long study of work cooperatives and collectives in Ann Arbor, using the food cooperative and the cooperative bakery, for instance. Alternative work organizations are businesses or service organizations in which the workers exercise some degree of control over their work and the work-place. They include places where workers make fairly major policy decisions.

"I'm not sure if it qualifies as a movement, but I see an awful lot of people whose consciousness was shaped during the Sixties doing a lot locally, in small towns around the country, in the way of alternative work. They haven't disappeared. After all, the children of the Sixties represented the largest generation in history, the largest 'cohort.' It's not a very big fraction that's involved, but with a generation that size, even a small fraction is a large number.

"Today's activism is clearly political, but it's not yet focused on a clear political target, like it was on American policy in Vietnam in the Sixties. I think it may focus. People may gain the awareness that there are economic processes operating which lead to consequences that they're not happy with, processes which they can connect to somewhat personally, like the development of the nuclear power and nuclear weapons industries.

"But I think that the motivation for this movement comes a lot more from wanting to make a decent life for yourself, a life which includes a sense of community for others, a sense of personal control over your own life, a life which is not being dominated by forces you don't understand or control, like the food industry that puts stuff in your food that might not be good for you or those who dump nuclear wastes in places that might affect you and the people you care about.

"The activity is also a response to a sense that something is the matter; that we are going to have to at least take our lives in hand at a local level as a response to a disaffection and a sense of unease.

"I think that the group that came of age in the late Sixties and early Seventies is a very critical group. If they are capable of finding ways of living that express their personal needs collectively, they might be able to start something that can attract some portion of this younger, less optimistic generation coming up.

"I think that the future depends very much on whether there is a renewal of political and social activity that is visible to these young people. There is currently a lot going on, but it doesn't make the newspapers. People are living their whole lives in interesting ways— but this is not visible in the same way that the anti-war movement was in the early Sixties. It really depends on whether this movement comes together fast enough to ward off the dangerous tendencies towards increasing centralization and power in the government, industry, and banking sectors of this country." □

Feminist lawyer Jean King sees a more socially enlightened generation emerging.

While drinking Sanka in Manikas Restaurant before doing some weekend field work for her legal practice, Jean King says that she's not sure that people take women's opinions seriously enough. "The fact that we have women delivering the news on television helps because we'll have a generation who will have heard things authoritatively from a female voice. Nobody 25 or older was socialized that way. While it is no longer fashionable to imply that a person doesn't know what she is talking about because she's a female, that doesn't mean that that feeling is not there under the surface."

King, an Ann Arbor resident for thirty-eight years, has been actively involved in the Democratic Party and the women's movement. She blames the relative quiet of the American political scene of the last few years on the political upheavals of the seventies. "I think that the country is still in shock from Watergate," she says. "It produced an enormous doubt about the country and about the validity of government among people of all parties and ages. It really shook them. There was a man at the top who lied furiously and cynically, who used the major institutions of our government to manipulate and harass people and damn near got away with it."

King, who has two children in their twenties and one in her late teens, believes that the changing concerns of today's youth are the significant trends in society.

"I don't think that the coming generation, from sixteen to twenty-five, is going to adopt the compromise that nuclear power represents. I was lucky enough to have been in Washington, D.C. during the anti-nuclear rally on May sixth. When my conference got over, I walked over among those hundred thousand people. I didn't see seven people over thirty years old. The mood of the crowd was really quite different from anything I had ever seen at a demonstration before. It was a happy, joyful, but serious crowd. It was not bitter, but it was determined, and it was very young.

> "I think the country is still in shock from Watergate. It produced an enormous doubt about the country and the validity of government among people of all parties and ages. It really shook them."

"It seems to me that below a certain age there is an almost universal concern for the environment which was not present before. We are finally realizing that our resources are not inexhaustible. I don't think that the generation coming along believes that any more. I think that they're imposing morality on environmental issues, making it immoral to use things when it's wasteful. Which my generation didn't do.

"I think that there's going to be much more of a willingness to do without. I don't think it's going to reduce the quality of life, because I don't think that the use of an automobile, for instance, makes that much difference to the quality of life. I think that people are going to be willing to go back to technology that uses a lot less energy, and they're going to learn to like it. I was delighted to see that a man in Maine has built a sailboat for the purpose of rafting lumber down the Atlantic coast."

"The super-worst problem that we have is the generation of black kids in the inner cities who have no job training, no education, and no opportunities. The whole country is trying to operate as if they didn't exist. About seven years ago, city after city tipped, as far as their percentage of blacks goes. It became obvious that the cities were going to elect black mayors. I think that if times get worse the black mayors or their successors will get into contact with each other, and bargain with the national government for what their people need."

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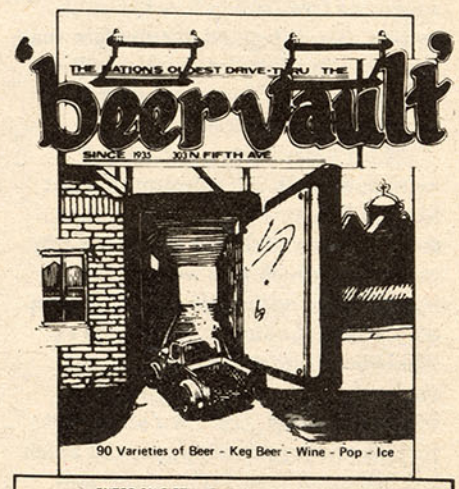

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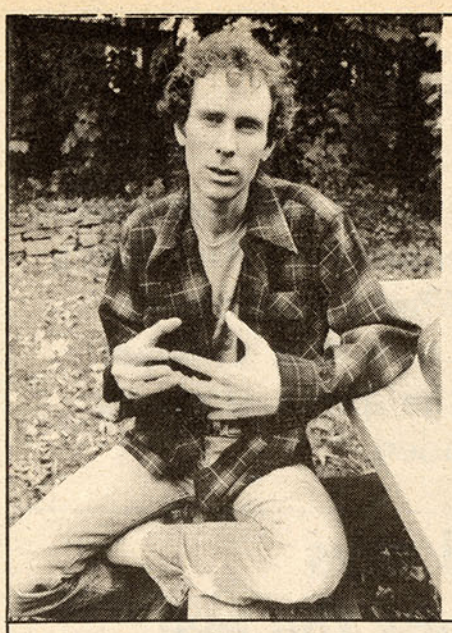

"I think we're in for a lot more centralization of power, a lot more government control, and a lot more ignorance on the part of the individual, who is carefully fed misinformation."

Applerose's Julian Moody predicts a dismal future.

Eating a light lunch at a corner table in The Blind Pig, Julian Moody has to raise his voice a bit to make his bleak social analysis heard over the noisy radio and all the chatter nearby. The owner of the popular Applerose Natural Foods on West Liberty, Moody was himself an active part of the youth movement on the West Coast in the late Sixties. But times have changed, and the optimism of that era contrasts dramatically with Moody's current assessment of the times.

"I think that we're in for a lot more centralization of power, a lot more government control, and a lot more ignorance on the part of the individual, who is carefully fed misinformation by the media and the communication systems of the world. I think that 1984 is the direction that we're heading in, and I don't think that there are enough humans on the planet wielding enough power to change the basic power structure in a short enough time to stop it. I think that we're going to find money turning into plastic cards, and we're going to find that everyone's life is in a central computer.

"I think that it's pretty silly to think that there's going to be a new morality or some trend on the planet that's going to make life better. I think that the only way that we'll get much positive change is if the larger structures crush themselves. I don't think that you can elect any kind of honest person into office. If you did, they would be immobilized by the people around them.

"It's all up to the individual. The individual can't expect any kind of political process or political, corporate or economic leader to make life better for them. Individuals are going to have to find some way to make life more appealing to their own selves. And I don't see people doing that. I see people dealing with the fact that they're not content by taking aspirin, valium, television, alcohol, and a variety of other pacifying drugs.

"We're all very lonely— none of us know ourselves and we're all really insecure. So we hire people to remind us that we can take care of ourselves mentally, emotionally, and physically.

"The new morality is basically one of ignorance. It pops up in a lot of different ways. People might say, let's boycott Nestlé's because they're selling this baby formula to South Americans that's killing all the kids. I say, let's boycott Nestlé's because the stuff they're selling to *us* is killing *us*. Look at the cancer and the heart disease and the arthritis and pneumonia and lung disease. It's all diet-related.

"My advice is to walk as much as possible. Park your car on the outskirts of town and walk in to work. Turn off your television, throw it away, read books and practice leading a simpler life. Eat less food, eat higher quality food.

"In my own heavily-biased opinion, a very nice way to spend time is walking, preferably in the woods; collecting firewood, building fires, sitting by fires, playing in the garden, playing in the kitchen, feeding oneself, working on one's own shelter, building a home. These are all very gratifying, self-fulfilling experiences. I think that we have basic needs: shelter, food, clothing and companionship, and that in dealing directly with those needs, we get our greatest amount of satisfaction." □

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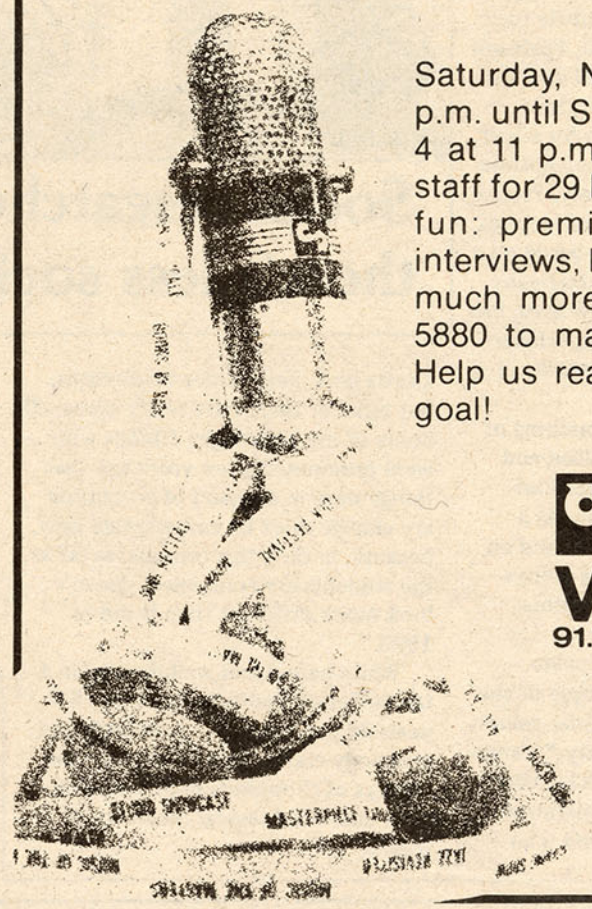

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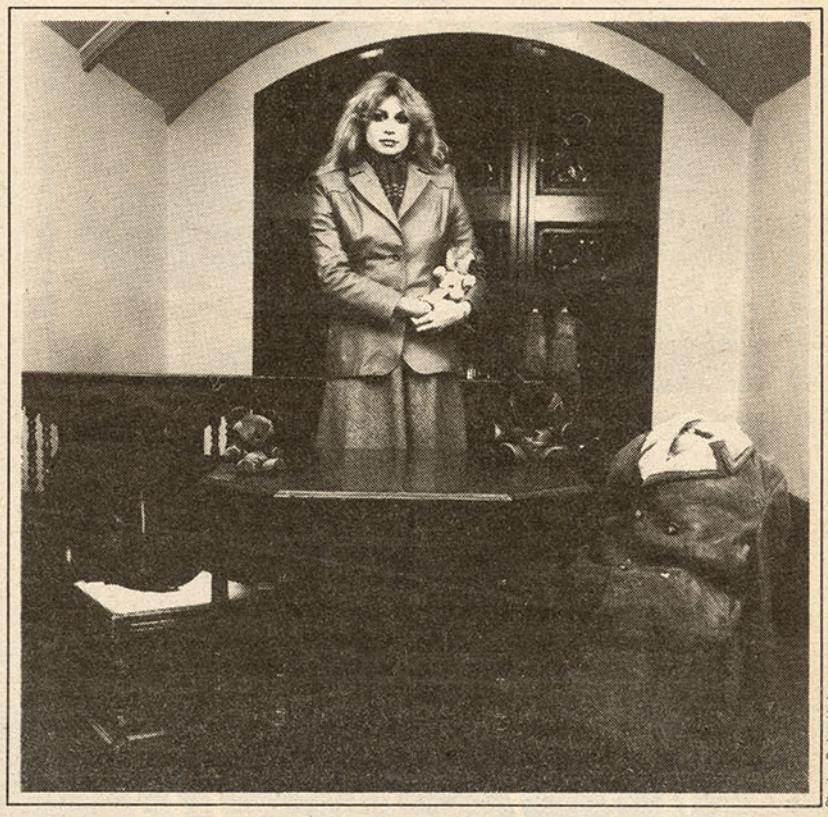

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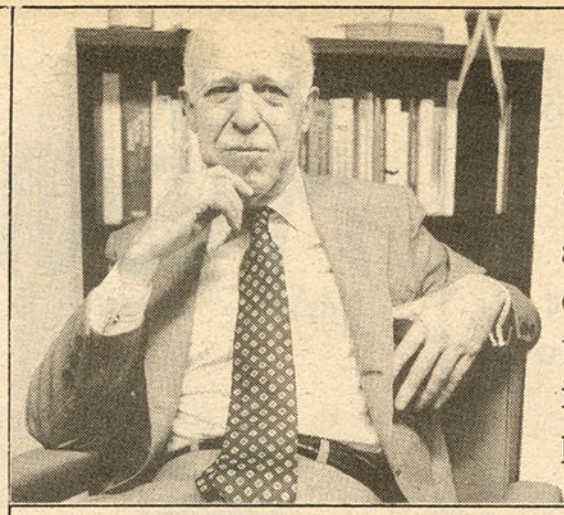


"Vietnam created a sense of disillusionment among the younger generation. And that's easy to understand. What's not so easy to understand is why, now that Vietnam is out of the picture, the spirits of young people haven't rebounded."

Social researcher Angus Campbell says there's less social change than meets the eye.

From his fourth-floor office in the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research, Professor Angus Campbell calls his secretary, who is on the fifth floor, and asks her to hold his calls for a half-hour while he discusses his perceptions of the current trends in society. Professor Campbell's recent series of lectures on psychological well-being, based on a twenty-year study of how Americans feel about the quality of their lives, has created a great deal of public, scholarly, and media interest in his work.

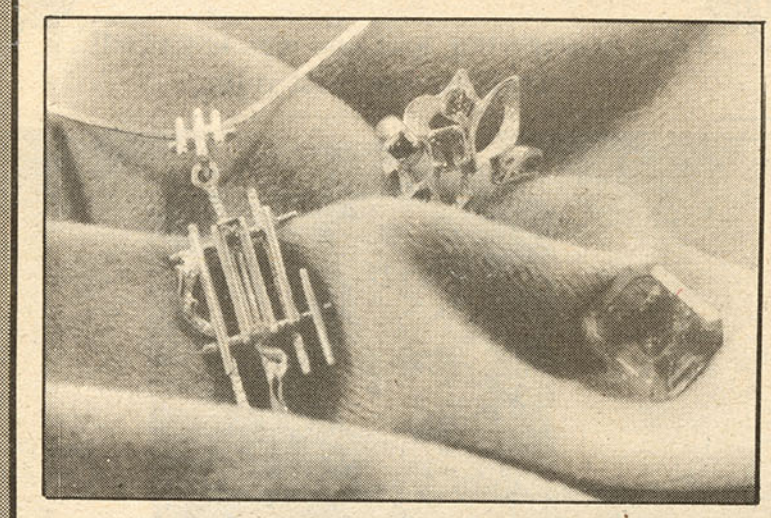
Professor Campbell is something of a classicist. The works of Milton and Tennyson stand alongside social science texts on his bookshelves. As a founding member of the I.S.R. and an expert on survey research, he enjoys debunking popular misconceptions about contemporary society.

"I think that the last ten years ought to have taught the people of this country that changes in popular values and beliefs come rather slowly," Campbell explains. "We've heard a lot about the youth revolution, the generation gap, the sexual revolution, and who knows how many other revolutions, but none of them have really come off. Some of my sociologist friends who were pronouncing ten years ago that things were in a period of revolutionary change must be embarrassed now, because, in fact, this campus, as far as the students are concerned, doesn't look much different than it did in 1960."

White-haired and well-dressed in a tan jacket of traditional cut, the 69-year-old professor of psychology and sociology claims that his nationwide surveys of thousands of households have identified several major social trends.

"It's an interesting fact that in the studies we've done on people's subjective well-being, the declines we've found have been strongest among young people, educated people, and affluent people. In 1957 these groups were all at the top of the ladder on our measures of well-being. At that time young people would describe their lives as happier than older people would. There were fairly substantial differences. Now that age difference has been wiped out. You don't find any difference in people in their 20's and their 60's in their expressed psychological well-being.

"A lot has happened in the last twenty years — especially Vietnam. It's just not possible to assign a numerical value to how much influence Viet-



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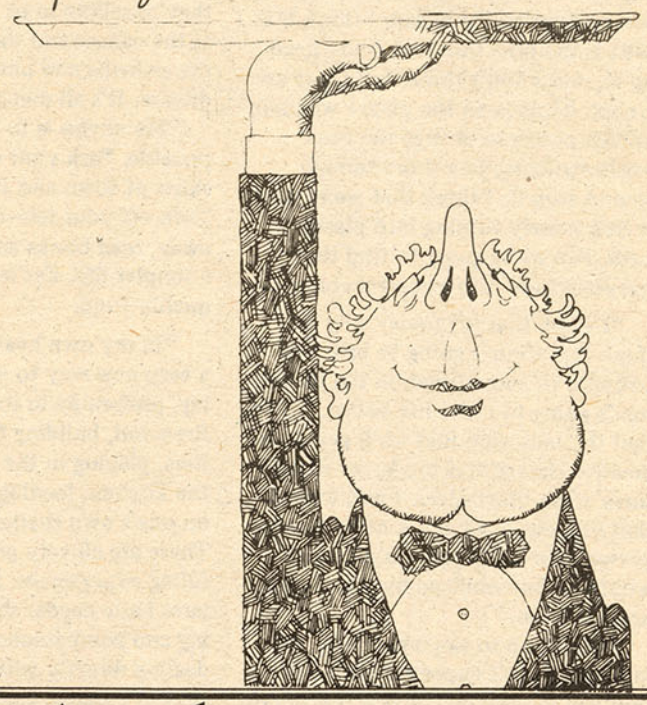

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nam had on this country, especially on the younger generation, but my own feeling is that it had a profound effect, much stronger than anything else that happened over these last twenty years. Vietnam created a sense of disillusionment among that generation. And that's easy to understand. What's not so easy to understand is why, now that Vietnam is out of the picture, the spirits of young people haven't rebounded. The fact is that young people's perception of their well-being in 1978 looks just like 1971.

"I think that young people have learned a lot of skeptical language, and that it is an expression of a real skepticism. Who could have lived through the last ten years without having some doubts raised in their minds about whether you can trust the national government, the FBI, the CIA, the oil companies, the labor unions, or anybody else?

"We may never get over this skepticism. The innocent period that I grew up in is probably gone forever. I do think that certain things are going to happen in the Eighties. I've been writing about the kinds of values that are important to people. I've used somebody else's system of talking about the values of having, relating, and being. The values of relating have to do with interpersonal relationships, like family relationships or friendships. The needs of being are what some people call self-actualization or self-fulfillment. I don't think any society is ever going to make the need for having unimportant, but I think that as a society becomes more affluent, especially as you build up a large number of educated people, you begin to bring these other values into play. They become more important for people when their needs for having have been satiated. I think that we are already into a time where more people than before are more concerned with the needs for relating and being.

"I have no doubt that there are a lot of people whose satisfaction from material things will never be satisfied. They'll go on buying large automobiles and snowmobiles and whatever can be invented. The point is that an increasing number of people are not infinitely interested in increasing their material gains. Their needs for having have been met, and these other needs have begun coming onto the stage.

"But suppose that, instead of moving into an increasing economic affluence, where everybody is optimistic and secure, we move into a period of shortages or a reduced standard of living. I think that the need for having will be increased, and these other kinds of values will diminish.

"For instance, you might hear someone say, 'I'm not going to take that transfer to Denver, I've built up my relationship in the neighborhood, my children are in a school system where they're happy, and their happiness is important to me.' That person is trading what would probably be an increase in economic value for their non-material values. If it came about that the company said, 'You go to Denver or you're unemployed,' I think it is obvious what would happen." □

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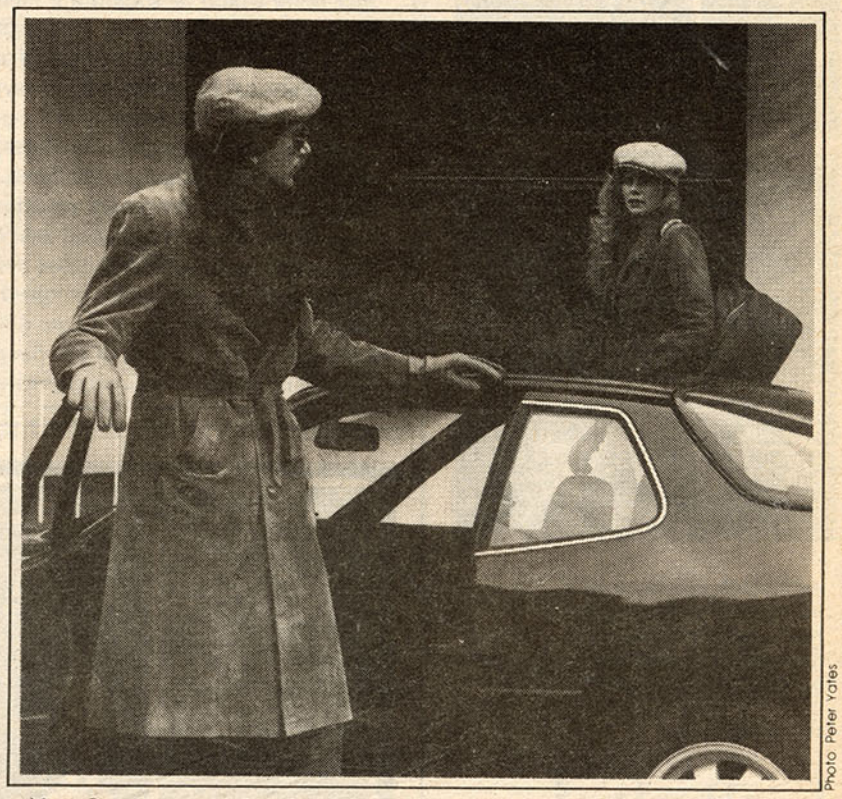

Photo Peter Yates

Men's Pigskin coat with mouton collar and button-out lining by Beged-Or – $620.
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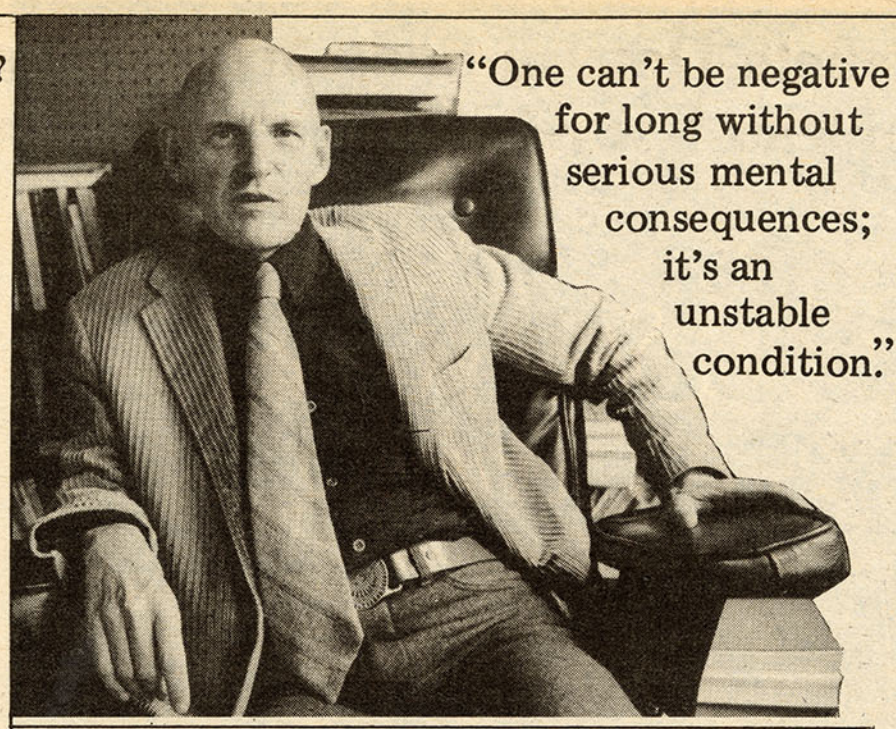


"One can't be negative for long without serious mental consequences; it's an unstable condition."

Visionary Rich Ahern sees signs of a new activism.

Fifty-two-year old Rich Ahern is a multi-faceted guru— a land planner, architect, and educator, and now, he says hopefully, a peace planner. Moving to an arm chair in his front office, Ahern, who was instrumental in bringing the Dalai Lama to Ann Arbor in October, talked about his hopes for a "new activism" in the coming years.

"I had the opportunity to travel for several months last year out west and back east. I did quite a bit of sketching. It was a good chance to meet people and find out what they thought about various things, because people of all different types like to come up and talk to an artist. I returned to Ann Arbor extremely encouraged. It wasn't just the people one might expect to be politically conscious who were concerned about America's future. Some well-to-do people were just as upset about present trends as people of lesser means. Nuclear weapons, nuclear power, corruption in government, the stranglehold of monopolies stifling small-scale enterprise . . . these and many other issues knew no social boundaries. A lot of the younger people expressed a desire to get things moving again. I remember one man who had gone to Oregon at the end of the Sixties. Like many of the Haight-Ashbury flower children who wanted to get back to the land and had fled the urban scene, he now wanted to get back to the city. After eight years of living in an idyllic spot overlooking the Pacific Ocean, he felt out of the mainstream of what was happening politically. He wanted to become re-involved. I met a lot of people who had that urge to do something but who just didn't know how to go about doing it.

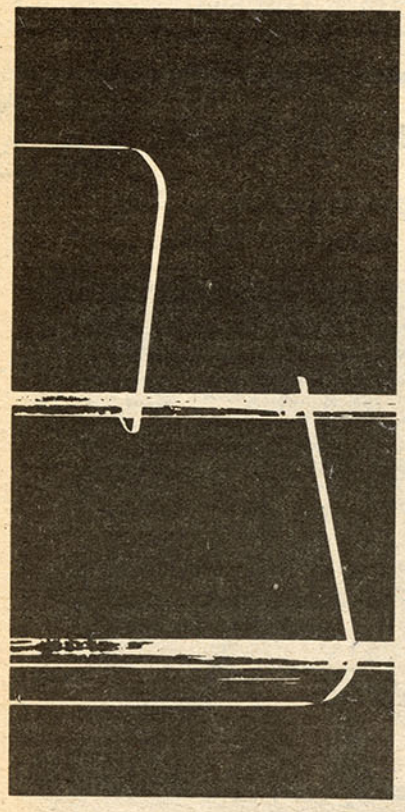
"This past spring I attended the World Symposium on Humanity in Toronto. People came from all over the United States and Canada hoping that there would be something there to get things rolling again. Although there was an overall technological and organizational breakdown at the symposium, I took advantage of the opportunity and organized a workshop on "A People's Paradigm for Peace." The Symposium was a very emotional experience. There was a good deal of inspiration and reaffirmation of people's felt desire to become involved in effecting social change. And we did become involved. Many of the people who went to the Symposium returned to their home towns and started groups in wholistic health, alternative education, renewable energy alternatives, etc. Those of us from Ann Arbor formed a group called Synthesis which recently co-sponsored a workshop on world peace. It included over a dozen representatives of local peace groups plus the Dalai Lama of Tibet and the Hopi prophet Thomas Banyacya. This was not intended to be an end in itself but a means to an end . . . world peace . . . and to continue the unfinished work from the Sixties and early Seventies.

"During the Sixties a sort of gut intelligence led to civil disobedience. People were opposed to fighting in an unjust war and supporting a corrupt government. That was in the finest American tradition. But there was primarily a negative quality to what was happening. It lacked a coherent ideology. That was one of the real problems with the movement. When the overt cause of the resistance was removed, the movement collapsed, while the trend toward total control of the economy by monopolies continued unabated. *True* free enterprise is now threatened with extinction if this trend is allowed to continue.

"For most of the Seventies we've had a long period of reflection in which people retreated into their shells, because one can't be negative for long without serious mental consequences; it's an unstable condition. If we are to reverse the present momentum toward a nuclear holocaust, we must come up with a positive ideology, not only for ourselves, but for all of humanity. Fortunately, such a philosophy exists— the philosophy of natural law is common to both ancient Greece and the origins of Taoism in China. It is referred to in the very first sentence of our own Declaration of Independence, but its significance was all but ignored during our Bicentennial celebrations in 1976.

"But now there might be a better receptivity to such considerations. I see more and more people seeking meaning in life . . . and finding it, in life itself . . . in people more than in property. I believe that a materialistic philosophy is ultimately unfulfilling. I sense that the trumped-up "need" to acquire ever more material goods is something that millions of middle- and upper-income people are tired of. In the Sixties the trend away from materialism was common for youth, but now I see it frequently in adults, even as our youth have become enamoured of disco and more fashionable clothes! But that too is changing, if my experience with students at the Lawrence Institute of Technology over the past few years is typical. Once again, students are becoming aware of the absurdity of an economy and society based on rearmament and non-renewable energy resources.

"Cynics sometimes ask me how I am going to get people to change their minds. But I'm not interested in changing the minds of the unconcerned. First we need to get those of us who *are* concerned and who do have ideas to come together, in order to make up our own minds collectively. If we would spend less time with television and spend more time communicating person-to-person, we could better understand the whole paradigm of reality of which each of us is but a part. And from that paradigm we can create a renewed vision of a future culture that co-evolves in harmony with nature. □



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Psychologist Elizabeth Douvan finds Americans are viewing their problems less religiously, more technologically.

"People think their work is harder, more demanding than they did in 1957. . . . But there's been a decline in people's satisfaction from fitting in the social structure of work."

Professor Elizabeth Douvan has earned a national reputation in the social research field for her work on how people's feelings about their major life roles change from generation to generation. Her special talent is determining the broader cultural implications of survey data. Sitting in her comfortable fifth-floor office at the U-M's Institute for Social Research, Douvan expressed a belief that a major change in American attitudes reflect the "psychologization" of American society as Americans become increasingly aware of themselves as complex psychological creatures.

Douvan's most recent work is a comparison of a giant 1976 national survey of 2400 adults with a similar survey taken in 1957. One of the most surprising results of the comparison of the two surveys, she told me, is that while Americans have become more tolerant of those who choose not to marry or raise families, there is paradoxically an increased feeling that family roles provide one of their most satisfying experiences.

A comparison of the two national surveys revealed many other things. Douvan told me, "We asked people questions about their work, their marital role, and their role as parents. There are interesting things that have happened. It's quite clear, for instance, that people's integration into their worklife has changed dramatically over the past two decades.

"People think that their work is harder, more demanding than people did in 1957. Today people think that their work demands more skill and talent. They also feel that they are very good at their work. But there's been a decline in people's satisfaction from fitting into the social structure of work. People today get less gratification from the people they work with than in 1957. There was a sense then that work was fitting into a known social organization and getting pleasure from interaction with other people. Now people are getting more gratification from what we call achievement needs at work and less from social needs like friendship and affiliation.

"I think that you can see that difference partly as a result of the whole egalitarian thrust of our society. For instance, it's not considered polite anymore to ask people on first encounter what their work is, because it's taken to be a preoccupation with the person's status and their role at work and ignoring the real core or center of the person.

"People who have children, given that we have absolute birth control, are obviously a more select group today. In 1957 some people had children who might not have, if they had had a choice. Today that's no longer true. People are postponing having children and some people are deciding not to have children.

"It's quite clear that parenting is a crucial role to those who perform it. They value it, they say that they get most of what they want out of life out of either marriage or parenting. The family roles are much more central to their gratification than their occupational roles. When we asked people which of the following things would they rather hear about themselves, that they are excellent at their work or that they are good parents, more people will choose the parenting role as more crucial to them in proportions of about three to two.

"I think that it reflects that the family values are terribly important to our society. Most people do figure that this is where you find meaning and self-definition. I think that this is the most startling finding of our study.

"People are also much more tolerant about the choice to get married or the choice to have children than they were in the late 50's. They accept that there are all sorts of ways to lead a life. When you asked people in 1957 what they would think of a person who didn't marry, most people said that either the person was too lazy, too selfish, sick, or immoral. Today you almost have to explain why someone would choose to get married and have a baby.

"One of the big things that has happened in the culture has been the decline of religion. The religious view said that human problems were the reflection of some failure in the individual and can only be solved by an act of will. Now, with the introduction of a modern technological attitude towards human affairs, which says that human problems share some qualities with other problems, there are technical problem-solving strategies that can be applied.

"In 1957 people were much more likely than in 1976 to blame their serious problems on other people, to say, for instance, that it was their husband's fault. Now people are more likely to point to the relationship as the cause of the problem. 'There was something in the way we were talking to each other,' or 'There was something in the way we were relating to each other', which is a much more abstract and sophisticated level of thought. Once you take that more neutral approach to a problem, it is possible to talk about ways of solving it.

"For this reason, I think that the interest in the self-help movement reflects some very positive changes in society. People are at least seeking some way to expand their experiences. When you think about the way the profession of psychology has expanded, and how the social sciences in general have burgeoned, I think these are a reflection of the same interest. There has been a popular culmination and realization of some of the things that Freud introduced." □

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A Tale in Fine Fashion

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Production House

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Former mayor Al Wheeler sees Ann Arbor becoming an overwhelmingly white, upper-middle-class community.

Al Wheeler has been an Ann Arbor resident for 42 years. He is a Professor of Microbiology at the U-M School of Medicine. He has been a major force in the local civil rights movement and served as state president of the NAACP for four years. Wheeler helped resurrect the Ann Arbor Democratic Party from its moribund condition in the 1950's, and served as mayor of Ann Arbor from 1975 - 1978.

As one of the first blacks to receive a U-M faculty appointment, the 64-year-old Wheeler's main concern is that mass society in the United States has begun to ignore or lose interest in the progress of blacks towards equal American citizenship. He claims that the goals of the civil rights movement have not yet been met.

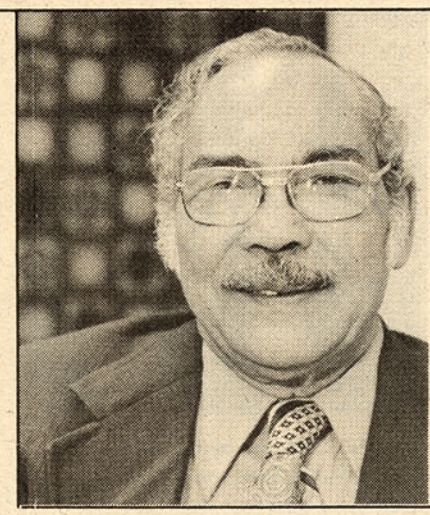
Wheeler's office in the Medical Science building is a way from City Hall, but he still cares a great deal about the civil rights movement he championed. Caught chain-smoking Camels while reading for his next week's lectures, Wheeler talked about his current disappointment and fears.

"I think America was born as a nation in a social revolution. People were fleeing opression and injustice. They were a protesting people, a fighting people. Since the beginning, America has been a large-scale experiment in social revolution.

"Part of that social revolution was the industrial revolution of the past century. We have gone from an almost totally agrarian nation to an industrial nation. I think that it was possible to do that so quickly because there were visible and material rewards for everyone. People worked for them. There were struggles between labor and management, but that's part of every revolution. As we've moved along, both labor and management have profited. Labor has benefits and protections it didn't have, and the corporations make more money than they know what to do with. In the broad sense the industrial revolution has succeeded."

To Wheeler, the sit-ins and marches and political action of the civil rights movement in the fifties and sixties, with a national coalition between blacks and liberal whites, was a high point of progress in the American experiment. He also feels that the level of activism in those decades was impossible to sustain.

"The social revolution is going to continue, but more slowly than the industrial revolution," he claims. "What the white majority has to gain is not as visible in the social revolution. The rewards are not material things, and white people do not perceive a self-interest in achieving those goals. Because of the industrial revolution people can own a house, buy an automobile, travel abroad. The rewards of the social revolution are less obvious. I don't think that blacks are going to be full, first-class citizens in the next ten years. I'm not sure that I see that happening before the end of this century.



"In the Seventies I feel that black progress has not plateaued but has slipped back a little towards the Fifties."

"The increased activity and white support for the civil rights movement in the Fifties and Sixties was encouraging and profitable. But in the Seventies I feel that black progress has not plateaued, but has slipped back a little towards the Fifties.

"For blacks, I think, there was a laying down of activism. There was a false sense of achievement. For example, the income of blacks increased significantly between the Fifties and the Seventies, but the gap between the median income for blacks and for whites widened over that period. I think this misperception of greater wealth caused a slowdown in what blacks were doing. There's less aggressiveness. And there's less awareness that these disparities exist.

"In the Fifties and Sixties there was really strong support, in the way of personal involvement, in the way of monies, for the civil rights movement from white organizations and individ-

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WHERE ARE WE NOW?

uals. And very importantly, the news media were there when brutality occurred, when the injustices occurred. And in homes all across this nation people could *see* what they could not believe was happening without seeing it. That aroused indignation among many Americans, and things began to happen.

"It seems that, in the Seventies, whites, like blacks, have a false perception of what progress has been made. Some said, 'Well, blacks have made it, now let's get about our own business.'

"Today I think that the vocal minorities that we call conservatives, or ultra-conservatives, have had a great deal of influence on the 'passive majority' of whites. When passive types saw things happen in the Sixties, they became indignant at the treatment of blacks. Now they don't see it in the media. There is no protest going on. So the *conservatives* have capitalized on issues that will attract the attention of this large group. During the Nixon years, we had his 'law and order' program. People could rally to that. They were intimidated by the violence in the streets. Since then there has been the California tax revolt, which has spread here. Again, this is a self-interest issue, which gets a great deal of support from these individuals and drowns out any other interest.

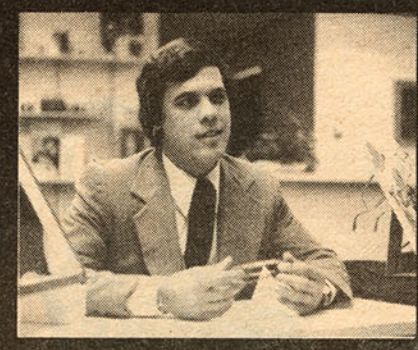
"White activists are still active. They're extremely interested in the environment, which involves all of us, black and white. They're concerned about energy, which also affects all of us. My disappointment is that all of their energies go into that, and we don't find the kind of available support that is needed in the area of social justice. I just wish that I could get a little help. I don't know how to get that support, what to do to mobilize it.

"I think that there ought to be enough concern about what the lack of housing will do to the future of Ann Arbor to get something going. That ought to be an important catalyst to people.

There has been a diversity of people in Ann Arbor over the years, a mixture of different ancestries, origins, economics, and races. And by and large people have been able to get along.

"What I see now is the movement of blacks and poor whites out of this community. The majority of the blacks who work in the sub-faculty categories of the University commute from Ypsilanti, Inkster and Detroit. They are no longer able to afford living here. We're moving towards a basically upper-middle class, elitist white community. Who would want to live in a community where everybody is making over $75,000 a year, if it is going to be a monolithic society, a 99% white society? It will change the community. To me that's important enough that regardless of political affiliation people ought to be concerned about it." □

Professional Optical



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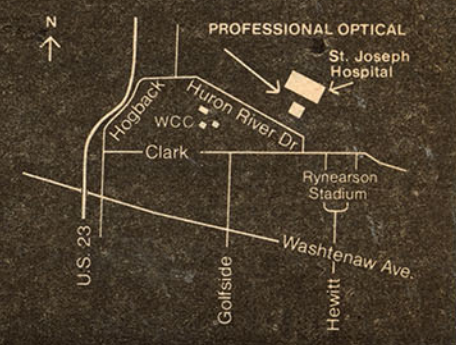

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Mirror, mirror on the wall
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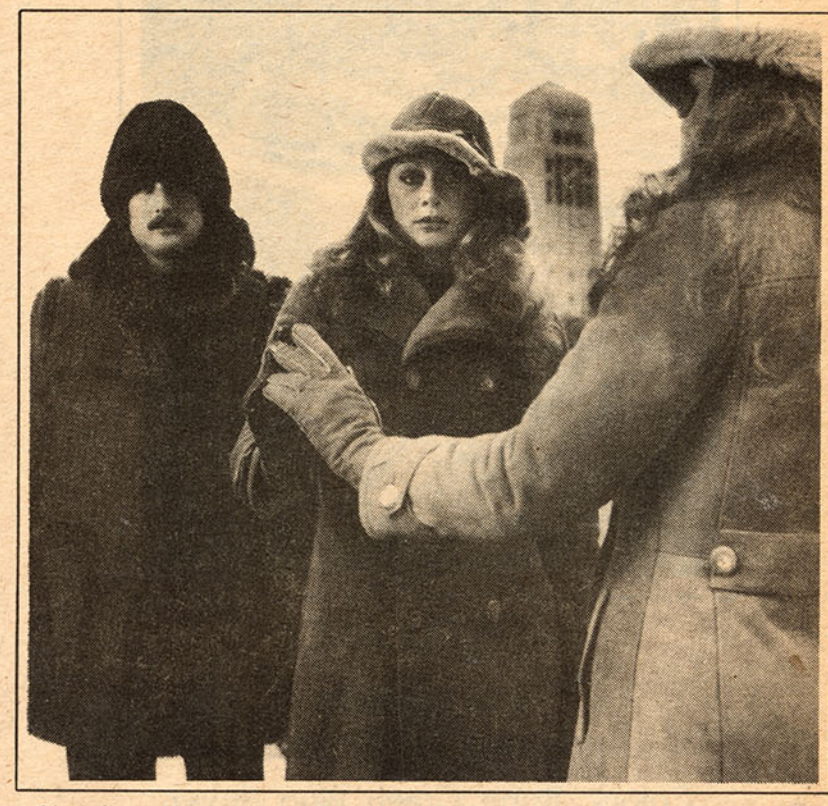

Photo Peter Yates
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Women's Sheepskin coat by Sawyer of Napa–$590. Sheepskin Gloves by Gates–$42. Sheepskin hat by Ranchero–$43

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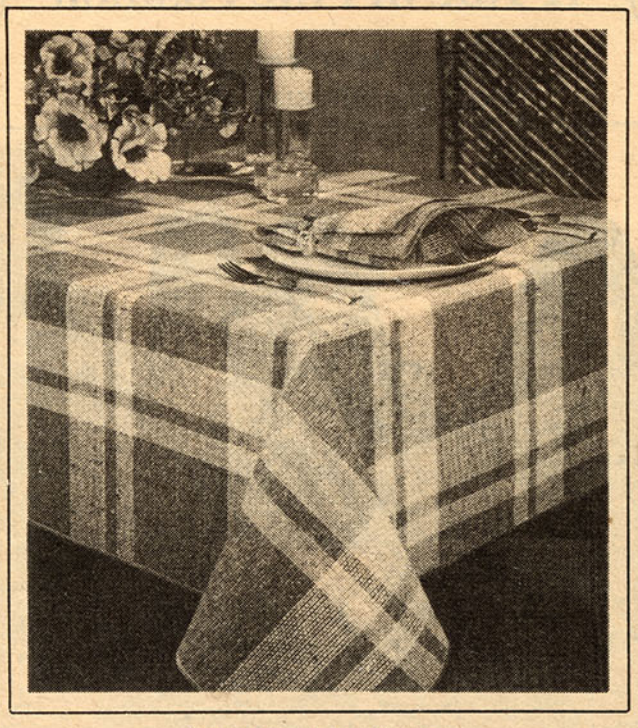

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HOW TO GET RICH

By Bob Elton

For only $7 a meeting, Frederic Jon Warzocha will tell you how to get your mind thinking the right thoughts.

Late this summer, bright yellow posters blossomed on light poles and other innocent stationary fixtures around town. "MONEY SEMINAR $" was the headline, and "Doubling your income without working harder" the promise. PROSPERITY INTERNATIONAL of ANN ARBOR was proudly presenting a money seminar. The flyer went on to ask, rhetorically, "Would you like to feel a more relaxed attitude towards money?" "Do you find yourself working or schooling for money only?" "Does doubling your income without working harder sound like a fun idea to you?"

If so, the flyer suggested that you attend a Prosperity International money seminar, which would provide "a safe, loving environment for you to explore money, yourself, and what you do for money." The seminar's goal was to help you develop a "money master-mind." The flyer revealed that one Frederic Jon Warzocha, the resident "prosperity counselor," could be contacted for further information at an Ann Arbor phone number. A paltry $7.00 for each of the four sessions was all Warzocha was asking to set you on the path to riches.

The flyer ended with an attempt at humor: "Money doesn't always bring happiness: A man with ten million is no happier than a man with nine million! Smile!"

I felt this was an opportunity not to be passed by lightly. Since there was no address on the flyer to direct my inquiry, I called the telephone number provided. A cheerful female voice answered, and, after expressing surprise that the address had been omitted from the flyers, directed me to the first seminar of Prosperity International of Ann Arbor.

The seminar was held in a small home at 727 Spring Street. Halfway up one of Ann Arbor's steepest hills in an unpretentious neighborhood of older houses, this house was smaller than most in the neighborhood, clad in red imitation brick asphalt siding and well hidden behind overgrown bushes and a flowing spruce.

The cheerful female voice I had talked to belonged to Marilyn Warzocha, the pregnant wife of the resident prosperity counselor, Frederic. She led me into the Warzocha living room to await Frederic's entrance. This room, directly off a screened front porch, had just about enough room for the eight people attending our seminar. I filled out a registration form and looked around. An overstuffed green sofa of indeterminate age and a matching chair dominated two sides of the room. Stereo speakers flanked the sofa, each topped with stacks of National Geographics. Directly opposite the chair was a glass-fronted bookcase, housing yet more National Geographics. The room was extremely neat, the carpet vacuumed, the magazines in trim, straight stacks. Already I was beginning to wonder: How does a person living in such modest circumstances purport to be a "prosperity counselor? "

While waiting for Frederic's delayed entrance, I had a chance to observe some of the other participants. They were mostly female and mostly, it seemed, of modest circumstances. A woman in her mid-forties who introduced herself as Joyce sat at one end of the sofa, her shapely legs tucked under her — her favorite pose, it turned out. A clerical worker at the U-M, she would frequently run her fingers through her frizzy hairdo or take off her glasses and twist them nervously.

Iris was fiftyish, a nervous talker. She sat on a pillow next to the bookcase and kicked off her shoes.

Linda, in her mid-twenties, wore a loose print dress and, like Joyce, Iris, and Marilyn, had shed her shoes.

Don, the only other male participant besides myself, was about 30. He sported a thin blond mustache.

All of us looked like we had a ways to go before we had it made financially.

Finally, after about a fifteen-minute delay, our prosperity counselor made his entrance. Frederic was tall and thin to the point of being skinny; his wavy black hair extended down into the merest trace of a beard along his chin. Wearing a bulky knit sweater and carrying a large folder of loose papers, he walked into the room, grabbed a wooden chair from a small table by the window, turned it wrong side to, and sat down facing us.

"I'm Frederic Jon Warzocha," he said with quiet self-assurance. "And this is my wife, Marilyn." Frederic then asked us to introduce ourselves, first name only.

We went around the room, each pronouncing our first names for the benefit of the others. Frederic glanced at each of our registration forms in turn. It was obvious from the introductions that he had known several of the people before the seminar. He put the forms on the small wooden table beside him, along with his notes, where he could easily reach them for reference.

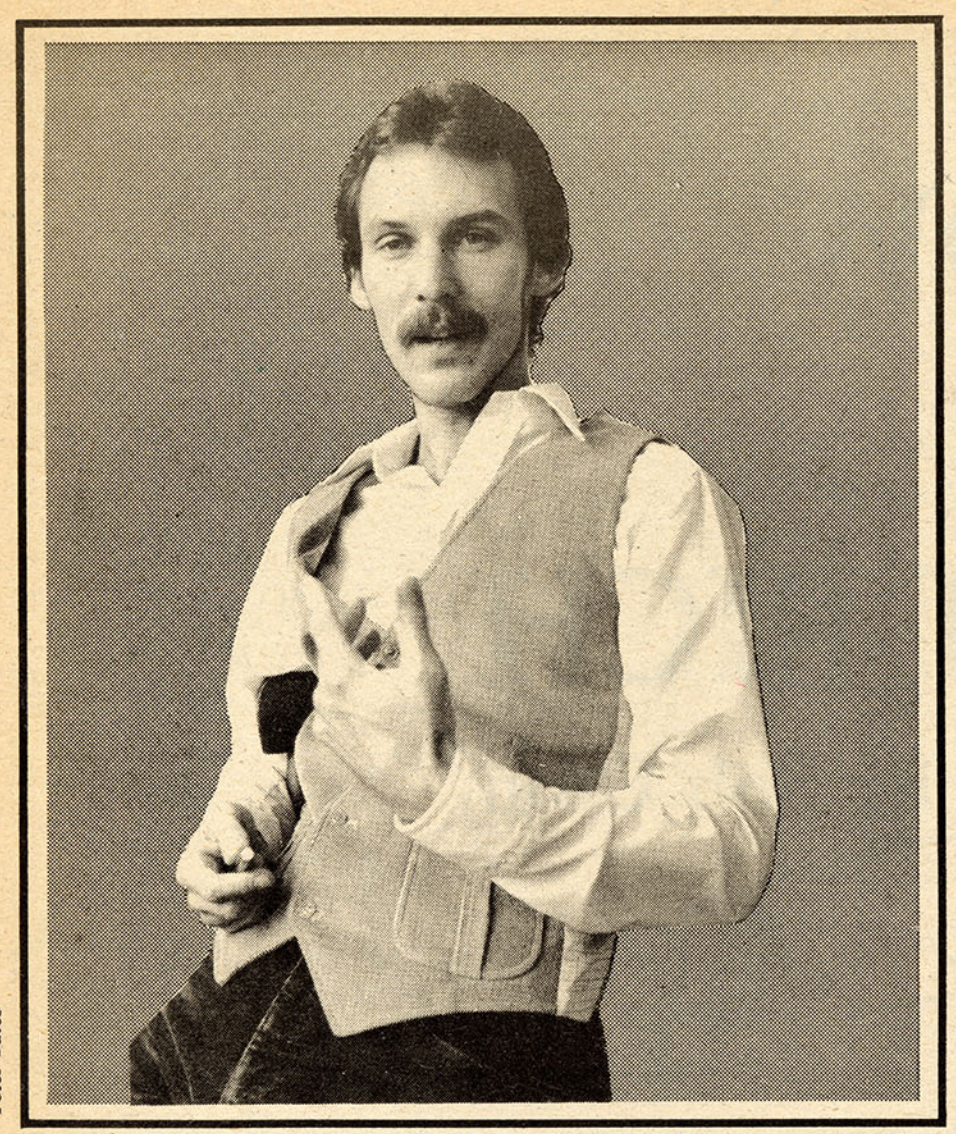
Frederic had us stand in a circle and hold hands, apparently to get us in the proper frame of mind to double our income. He led us all in breathing in unison, four shallow breaths and then one deep one, for several minutes. Frederic's wife, Marilyn, then collected the $7 fee from the six participants. Most of the people brought cash, and she was busy changing fives and tens. While she was doing this, Frederic asked us to relate some of our good experiences with money during the past week.

Responses varied. Joyce told of her success recently in making a little money from the massage seminars she had started. Iris took the opportunity to commence a non-stop monologue about turning down, for the first time, monetary aid from her ex-husband. I thought perhaps that wasn't a particularly good example of garnering greater wealth. But as the story eventually revealed, the subsequent need for money led Iris to pursue successfully an editorial job she had sought for some time.

Don told us of searching for a menial job in Toledo, where he lives. Apparently he had worked for a long time at an unpleasant, minimum-wage job. No sooner had he signed up for Frederic's seminars than he was offered a slightly less unpleasant job at the same minimum wage.

Linda talked of looking for a house in Ann Arbor, a depressing prospect for anyone of even moderate means.

Next, Frederic asked us to elaborate on the financial values we had inherited from our parents. Frederic's contention was that people will become as rich as they think they can, hence it is basic to THINK RICH. For the women, this was a



Peter Yates

Frederic Jon Warzocha

clear problem. All the women, it turned out, suffered from a form of financial paternalism, the societal bias that treats women as though they cannot, and hence should not, handle money. Joyce was very nervous with the trend of this discussion. Finally, twisting her glasses nervously, she blurted out, "My mother told me more about sex than she ever did about money, and damn little about sex!" This revelation set off Iris on another monologue, for her mother depended entirely upon her father for money and managed to transmit this dependency directly to Iris. Frederic eventually hushed Iris so he could get on to the next part of the program.

Since the way to riches is to think rich, Frederic proposed to show us how to get our thoughts in order. If you think strong enough and positive enough thoughts, money is just bound to fall into your lap, he told us. To focus our thoughts of wealth, he brought out Prosperity International's mega-weapon on poverty: the Affirmation. While everyone has his or her own personal desires, it took a little doing to translate them into a useful affirmation, so Frederic gave us a few samples to practice with. After a little paper shuffling, he produced copies of a list of affirmations and passed them around. The group studied them for a few minutes, and then Frederic led us in chanting in unison each affirmation.

"I deserve to be wealthy." This affirmation headed the list and, indeed, it seemed to be a desire of all present. It was so favored, in fact, that the group chanted it five times in succession before moving on to another.

Next, we chanted with gusto, "My job is the pipeline by which I tap the infinite wealth of my U.S. economy for my own personal desires."

Then came, "My income now exceeds my expenses." Frederic, it turned out, gave no advice on dealing with the bank when one's checking account is overdrawn, other than the persistent chanting of this affirmation.

Marilyn broke in at this point, telling about how this affirmation reminded her of the Kirby vacuum cleaner salesmen she knew years ago, who would chant good thoughts about a prospective neighborhood at their morning sales meeting before they hit the sidewalks to sell their vacuum cleaners. Frederic was not amused, and Marilyn did not pursue the comparison. Her rather unprofessional interruption, plus Frederic's close attention to his notes, began to make me think that this was his first effort at running a prosperity seminar.

The chanted affirmations continued, one by one: "I now have a positive personal cash flow." "My personal income increases every day, whether I am working, sleeping, or playing."

As our earnest voices chanted into the still summer air, Frederic's cat, a mottled gray feline of uncertain ancestry, padded into the room and started to claw the couch, requiring an interruption in our spiritual communion while the animal was incarcerated in the bedroom.

Our chants resumed.

Next came, "If I don't watch out, money will drop into my lap." Then, "All my investments are profitable."

Conspicuously absent from all these affirmations was any mention of hard work and personal commitment. I began to wonder which of Frederic's students would laugh out loud first at this chanting nonsense, this American tendency toward positive thinking gone berserk. But looking around at the others in our little group, it was clear that I was the only one harboring doubts about the efficacy of Frederic's method for becoming prosperous. Glancing at the faces of my fellow group members, I saw looks not of skepticism, but of belief, as if the elusive path they had sought for so long was finally being revealed to them. I began to feel very much alone.

After we were thoroughly chanted out, Marilyn offered ice water for refreshment, served for some reason in small china cups with red handles. Following this short break, Frederic explained more about the Prosperity International theme. He was emphatic about the power of the affirmation, citing numerous personal examples. His favorite was the incident of the $55. For some reason a while back, he needed $55. So he wrote out and then chanted an affirmation to that effect. Nothing materialized for a while, so he gave up. Later that day, while cleaning a part of the house, he found a forgotten bank book. In the bank book was exactly $55! I thought this example illustrated a careless accounting of assets, but Frederic assured us otherwise.

Frederic's other favorite examples of the power of affirmations involved automobiles. It seems as though Marilyn's aged Valiant had finally and completely died in the driveway. So Frederic began to affirm the need for a new car for Marilyn. In due course, someone called up and of-

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> Frederic's contention was that people will become as rich as they think they can, hence it is basic to THINK RICH.

fered him a free Pinto. Unfortunately, his original affirmation did not specify that the replacement car would actually run. When he went to pick up the free Pinto, he found that, indeed, it did not run. So Frederic spent some money and made it run, at least well enough to get it home. Only then did he discover that severe electrical problems made it impossible to turn off the engine upon command. Now two dead cars graced the driveway where previously there had been but one.

The point of this example was that affirmations are very powerful and require great care when using. A carelessly worded affirmation could bring unwanted results.

But the story had a happy ending. After a great deal of reflection, Frederic wrote up and chanted a new, more precise affirmation, and soon, he claimed, someone called up and offered to buy the dead Valiant and pay for it by fixing the Pinto.

At the close of this session, we gathered again in a circle for breathing in unison and chanted a few long, drawn out OMMMMMMMMMs. All the participants vowed to return faithfully next Thursday.

All of the three subsequent sessions followed much the same pattern. There were, however, a few interesting variations.

At the third session we were greeted with an apparent apparition. In one corner of the room stood a small tree bearing a number of two-dollar bills. Closer examination revealed that Frederic had not created an horticultural miracle. The bills were carefully attached to the tree by small paper clips. The purpose of this exercise was to condition us to giving away money. According to Frederic, "The guru that wins is the one who is wise enough to give away money foolishly." Money that is given away, he told us confidently, returns tenfold. Thus, while he was giving us each two dollars, he expected to get a return of twenty, one way or another. Our instructions were to take one of the bills along with a very specific affirmation to the effect that giving brings material returns, and, in turn, to give the bill to a friend and read him the affirmation. This would assure a return to us, as well as a return to Frederic. The whole scheme sounded shaky to me, but I took the $2 bill anyway.

That same session was also notable in that it was the only time when one of the participants took issue with Frederic's basic philosophy. Marion, a neatly dressed, middle-aged writer for a state agency, listened intently as Frederic expounded on the theory of simply asking persistently for what you want. Marion asked what happens if you can't get what you want? Suppose the goods, services, or money that you desire are all held tightly by people imbued with the capitalistic spirit? Isn't it going to be hard to get things if others are hoarding not only the wealth, but the means to produce the wealth?

Frederic replied, somewhat airily, that political and corporate systems were made by men, and a positive enough affirmation could overcome any man-made obstacle. Also, people who were poor, or felt themselves poor, were not victims of society or of other individuals. They were poor because of their own inferior money thoughts. If they could think rich, they would *be* rich. At that rejoinder, Marion sank back into the chair with a pensive look on her round face. The rest of the group rather enthusiastically agreed with Frederic.

The fourth and final seminar of this series had an interesting twist. Before this session, Frederic had collected $7.00 a

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head from the six participants. That was a neat $42.00 for two hours work in the comfort of his living room. But, on the final night, Frederic made a move to increase the yield even more.

After the chanting and the refreshments, Frederic gave us a lecture on the value of negotiation. "There is nothing in this universe that is not negotiable," he stated flatly. "Nothing." He then used a ploy I have never seen before, but one that in retrospect is perfectly consistent with the teachings of Prosperity International: if you want more money, ask for it.

It worked like this. To begin, Frederic asked the participants if they felt they had gotten their money's worth. There were no demurrers. Everyone was emphatic that Frederic's dose of the standard self-help philosophy of positive thinking, without the excess baggage of hard work, was well worth the $28 that the whole series had cost. Then Frederic rephrased the question, still seeking, no doubt, a unanimous positive response. Was everyone convinced he or she had gotten at least $28 worth of advice and counsel? Again the response was warmly positive. The final step was to ask if anyone felt that the seminars were worth more than the $28 that the people had paid. Either through politeness, inertia from the previous positive responses, or outright enthusiasm, agreement was again unanimous.

At this Frederic commanded us to stand in a semi-circle while he remained seated in the wooden chair. He then asked each of us, in turn, how much more than $28 the seminars were worth, and then demanded to know how each of us were going to make up the difference to him.

Most of the responses were enthusiastic. Don, for example, the wispy-haired young man who had faithfully commuted from Toledo to these seminars, was delighted at the chance to show his appreciation. He promised to tithe — that is, he would send Frederic ten percent off the top of his next few paychecks.

Linda, no closer to her dream home than when she started these seminars, was anxious to give Frederic something. Staring at the floor and shifting from one bare foot to the other, she hesitantly admitted that she had little money. Frederic offered to take services instead and coached her by asking her what she enjoyed doing. Finally she volunteered to do shopping and errand running for Frederic's wife for a few weeks. Frederic acknowledged the agreement and allowed her to sit down.

Joyce, the nervous clerical worker, also expressed a lack of funds but a willingness to contribute. She promised to promote Frederic's future seminars all over the department store where she worked.

Marilyn stated that she had originally feared that people would think it "hokey" if she participated in her husband's seminars, but, on the balance, it *had* improved her attitudes about money, and she felt richer already. To reward Frederic, she promised to spread the word of future seminars among all her relatives, no mean feat considering that she has ten siblings.

A casual calculation of the results of this final exercise indicate that it increased Frederic's take by almost 100%. Not bad.

I began to wonder which of Frederic's students would laugh out loud first at this chanting nonsense, this American tendency toward positive thinking gone berserk.

Curious about a man bold enough to pull off a caper like prosperity counseling without the slightest crack in his armor of self-confidence, I made an appointment with Frederic Jon Warzocha to learn more about him and about Prosperity International.

Frederic was more than happy to talk with me, so we got together one afternoon in his backyard. Consistent with his rather hedonistic approach to life, Frederic leaned back in a canvas chair with his feet propped up on a tree stump throughout the interview, baring his well-tanned chest to the early fall sun.

Warzocha told me he was thirty years old and a native of Dearborn Heights. He enlisted in the Air Force at age nineteen and spent two years there, followed by some time in college. He eventually gained his Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Eastern Michigan in 1975. Then, having been interested in metaphysics for some time, he took stock of his life, divorced his first wife, and became a full-time musician. The allure of the performing arts palled eventually, and in 1978 he took a year off to study and reflect. Then, in 1979, he began the full-time study of prosperity. This led shortly to the founding of Prosperity International of Ann Arbor.

The nation-wide Prosperity International was founded by a man from Colorado named Leonard Orr, described by Frederic as "a modern guru, a man of absolutely no pretensions, who is absolutely honest about what he has." It seems that Frederic's study of metaphysics led him to the study of prosperity, and hence to the teachings of Leonard Orr. Obviously awed by Orr and his work, Frederic was nearly overcome when he met him almost by chance, at a traveling Rebirthing Seminar Orr was giving throughout the country. Moved, Frederic asked Orr how he could further spread his teachings, and the net result was the establishment of a franchise here in Ann Arbor. Frederic, though willing to wax eloquent about Leonard, was quite reluctant to discuss the financial details of his franchise.

Frederic was reluctant, in fact, to talk about much of his financial success. On the surface it seems to me that he is far from wealthy. Frederic places great faith in good investments, but he told me that he does not own the house he lives in, and real estate is perhaps the best investment one can make in Ann Arbor. Maybe Frederic hasn't been in the prosperity business long enough for success to show.

Frederic is very proud of his final evaluation technique, whereby he negotiates

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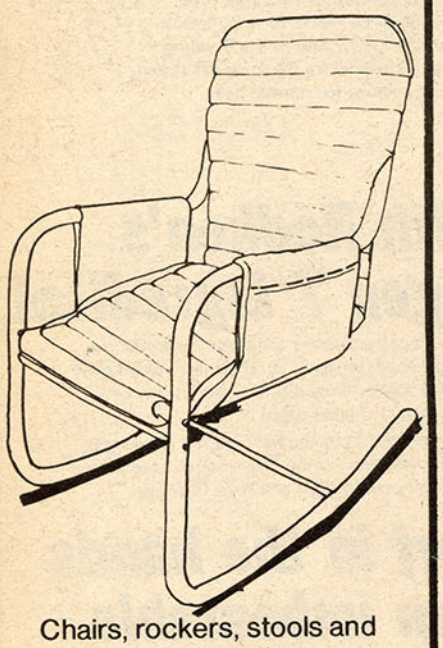

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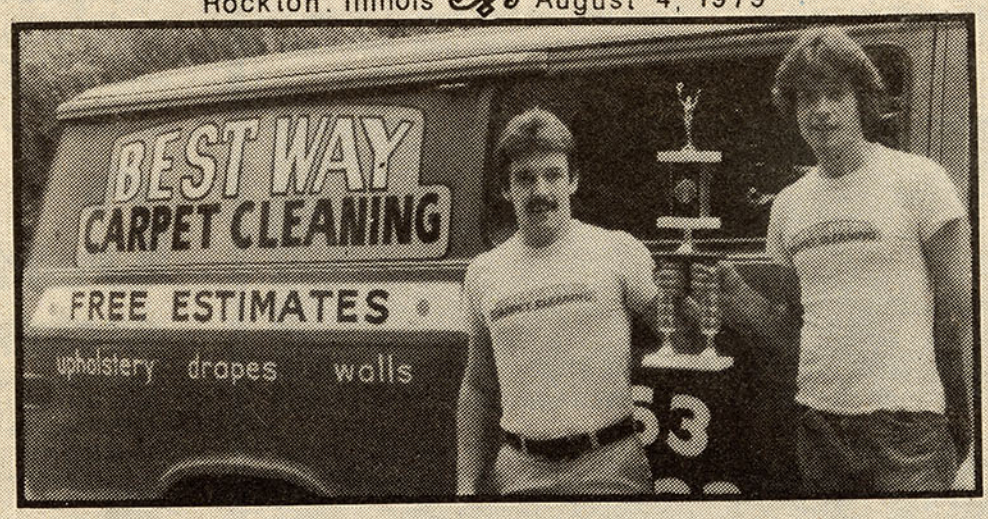

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more money from his clients. It is a technique he claims requires a lot of courage on his part. "It is really hard, for the first time, to come out and ask people what I'm worth." Frederic counsels people individually in prosperity consciousness, and he uses the same ploy at the end of each counseling session. He has yet, he claims, to "find anyone . . . who doesn't want to pay me more than I ask. . . ." He adds, smilingly, "Money-back guarantee. If anyone asked for a full or partial refund, I would be happy to give it to him." I asked if he made that clear before or during the sessions. He laughingly replied, "My karma projects it to everyone in my presence." Frederic is obviously very confident of his lessons' value.

I left this interview with mixed feelings. It is clear that Frederic has found an effective way of separating some people from their money, yet it is equally true that, as one old-time con man put it, "You can't swindle an honest man." Most if not all the participants at these seminars were seeking a short cut to easy money and an escape from the hard work and personal responsibility involved in making wealth more than just a fantasy. In Frederic's prosperity seminar, they found just what they were looking for. □

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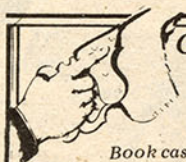
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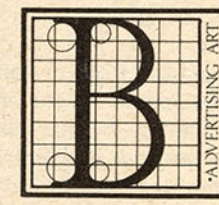
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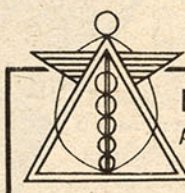
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Norm Harris thinks of himself as just another comic book reader. " 'Expert' is a word I don't like to come to grips with," he says. "I just like 'em a lot." Owner-operator of The Eye of Agamotto, a comics store at 340 South State Street, Norm says he's just one of many Michiganians who "read comics seriously."

But Norm's knowledge of this genre goes well beyond that of most serious readers. He has not only an encyclopedic historical knowledge of comics, but a critic's eye for plot development and characterization. And Norm, who got a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the U-M in 1969, has a particularly keen appreciation for the art of the comic book.

Norm, 32, grew up in St. Clair Shores. After graduating from the U-M, he stayed on in Ann Arbor. He was working at Dominick's when he discovered a comic book store above Tice's on State Street. It was then called the Curious Used Book Shop, an offshoot from a store of the same name that still exists in Lansing. It specialized, Norm says, "in obscure, boring Michigan history-type books," with comics on the side. Norm began to work at the casually-run store in exchange for comic books, soon becoming manager and bit-by-bit replacing the used books with comics. In October of 1974, Norm bought the shop and sent the rest of the dusty old volumes back to Lansing to their owner, Ray Walsh. He renamed the shop The Eye of Agamotto, after the powerful amulet belonging to Dr. Strange of Marvel Comics fame.

Through the door, up a flight of stairs, and through another door at the end of a long, dark, narrow hallway, lies the shop, its well-lit, cheerful busyness in sharp contrast with its obscure location. The shop's two rooms are lined with thousands of new and used comics; classic or unusual comic-book covers paper its walls.

People move in and out constantly, most of them greeting Norm like old friends as they enter. Bearded, casually dressed, and good at friendly conversation, Norm looks like one of the customers as he sorts through shelves or stands behind the counter. Leaning on the counter over stacks of vintage issues, some worth as much as $80, Norm told me that Ann Arbor is a good town for a comics store.

"The Detroit area has always been a strong comic book area. Southern Michigan is. Whenever DC or Marvel is considering a price rise, they do samplings. They always use Michigan. There's a guy in Detroit whose name is Jerry Bails, a professor at Wayne State. He's one of the foremost comic fans of all time. There was another man here in Ann Arbor named Edwin April; he died about 1972. He had an amazing collection of stuff — original art and comics. And when you have big collectors, you've got other collectors in the area, too. I know one guy who buys nothing but Spiderman. He doesn't read it; just puts it on the stack because he's got a complete run somewhere."

Less than one third of Norm's customers are 12 or younger; most are students and adults, including one mother who comes in weekly to pick up the latest issues for her son. Still, it's relatively rare for an adult to be openly enthusiastic about comics. His voice quickening as he warms to the subject, Norm blames this on "that association of comic books with juvenality and junk. You know — candy bars and comics. I'm not saying that there aren't junk comic books; there's millions. But people see you reading a comic book, and they go 'whew!' It might be *War and Peace* done as a comic book, but as long as it's that format, they're down on it."

Norm then gave me an historical overview of comics. Though comics have never been held in high esteem by the general public, they were widely read when they first came out in the late Thirties. "In the nineteen-forties," says Norm, "if something didn't sell a million copies, they cancelled it." By the late Forties, however, the novelty had worn off and sales went into a slump. "Nowadays, if something sold a million copies they'd all get down on their knees and worship it. Nothing sells more than two or three hundred thousand copies anymore."

But there was a bright spot in the comic book world of the Fifties. William Gaines, whose company, Educational Comics (EC), published such books as "Saddle Romances" and "Picture Stories from the Bible," decided in 1949 to get his books back in the money. He hired some of the best artists and writers in the business and EC (now Entertaining Comics) began to turn out not only gut-wrenching horror comics but anti-war comics, Ray Bradbury adaptations, and hard-hitting moralistic tales about drug addiction, poverty, and other grim realities. Though the covers sported such gory graphics as the picture on Norm's wall of a dripping, severed arm hanging from a subway strap, the work inside denounced such violence rather than promoting it. For the first time, fans began to follow certain titles and artists. Letter columns were started.

Soon other comic companies decided to get in on the trend. Unfortunately, they didn't look past EC's covers. In the heart of the McCarthy era a whole school of hack horror comics sprang up. So, in response, did outraged parents. William Gaines was taken to court, and DC Comics ("the real right-wingers of comics," says Norm) proposed that the comic companies set up an internal board of censors. The Comic Code Authority was established, and horror stories disappeared. Superheroes gained a foothold once again. The Flash, Green Lantern, and other Forties titles were revived. "The wave started again," Norm says. "That's what's known as the Silver Age of comics. The Forties was the Golden Age."

The initial demand for comics and their vast, untapped potential made comic artistry a popular field during the Forties, the most creative period in commercial comic history. In the Fifties, however, legal restraints and moral sanctions had put a damper on that creativity.

DC maintained its corner on the comic market by relying on a safe old formula. Batman, Superman, Wonder Woman and

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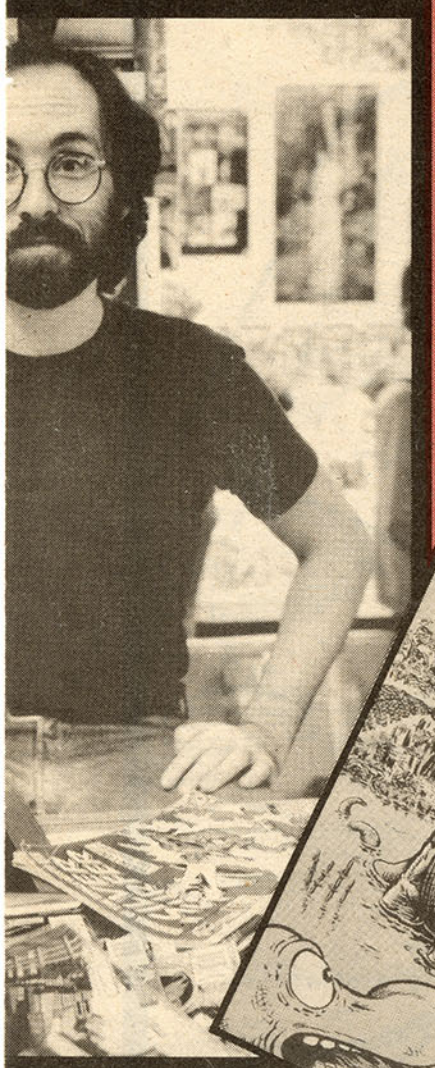

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k life is tough, just try facing it as a

the other DC superheroes each operated in a different fictional city. There was no interaction between them, nor any consistency or continuing story lines within the books, each of which consisted of three short stories. Worst of all, in Norm's opinion, the stories themselves lacked imagination. "You knew what each issue of Superman was going to contain, long before it came out. If they found that a story with a certain type of character or villain or plot line or set of gimmicks really got mail response — boom! The next issue was sure to have more of it. That was their whole hypothesis at DC; just more of it, more if it."

Stan Lee, then running a comic company called Atlas, decided in 1961 that the time was ripe for change. Teamed with Jack Kirby, who drew most of his comics, Lee converted Atlas to Marvel, tying into the Marvel Comics of the Forties and bringing back such characters as the Submariner and the Human Torch.

Lee also instituted new ways of creating comics. "At DC," Norm explains, "the author pretty much tells the artist what to draw where. And that's very restrictive to an artist." At Marvel, on the other hand, the author and the artist confer about a book, the author laying out the plot and the artist deciding how to handle it.

Above all, "Stan Lee figured out what was missing was realistic personalities. So he updated his books to the Sixties. His comics were definitely very distinctive. Early Marvels are kind of dull and gray in color; they're not bright like Superman was. And it wasn't three separate stories in each issue. Marvels were always full-length continued stories. They got readers to come back, time and time again, and slowly they overtook DC. Now Marvel's much stronger than DC in popularity."

A great deal of that popularity is due to Marvel's carefully-cultivated and shrewdly-maintained image, not only of its superheroes but of its "bullpen" of artists, writers, letterers, colorists, and editors, and above all, the image of its creator-turned-manager, Stan Lee. Lee lectures regularly at conferences and universities. The words "Stan Lee presents" are on every Marvel comic book, newspaper strip, or TV show. Many people who know nothing about comics know his name.

For the past several years, however, Marvel comics have not been noticeably more interesting or innovative than DC. Underground comics have been published that are far more thoughtful, more imaginative and/or better drawn than any but a handful put out by the major companies. "Stan Lee doesn't relate to these times any more," says Norm. "He's a businessman; he doesn't read comics. I'm sure to him, comics are very very boring. This is a man who has been involved in comics since he was fifteen years old. By now, there's nothing new to him in the industry. He's not in touch. He's a hack writer, a junk writer."

"The important thing to do if you read a comic that really sparks you," says Norm, "is look and see who does it. There aren't that many people in this industry, but there's a handful that are so damn good. Just about anything they do is worth reading. Artists coming along these days grew up with comic books. They want to do something for the medium.

Howard the Duck is another Marvel character who used to "jump off the page." The cynical, cigar-smoking, Groucho Marx-like duck was given his own book in 1975 (due to an overwhelming reader response when he made what the author had intended as a one-shot appearance as a minor character in *Man-Thing*) and gained fans so quickly that he got several thousand votes when he ran for president in 1976. Howard, whose tag is "trapped in a world he never made," fell into Cleveland, Ohio, from another universe in which all animals talk. He and his gorgeous human sidekick, Beverly, encounter all kinds of unromanticized specimens of urban blight and human folly for which the irascible Howard has no sympathy. He calls people "hairless apes."

"The situation alone was enough to attract you," says Norm. "It was something you always thought about; Donald Duck always talked to other animals. Never did you see him talking to a human being. You're talking about something very deeply rooted in the comic book-reading public. Funny animals have been in existence as long and sold every bit as well as superheroes. Donald Duck was one of the strongest-collected comics of all time, and it's still one of the most expensive to collect. That's because a lot of people are into it. So when people see a talking duck stuck on our planet, dealing with New York or Cleveland or whatever, it hits home, and that ingrained frustration really steps out."

To most of the people who create them, comics are a serious business — and a frustrating one. "A good artist can't just take his time and draw, in the way that he wants to," says Norm. "The publishers are constantly telling him, 'Don't put in so much detail, don't work so hard on that; just get it done.' That, to a creative person, is depressing. The printing process for comics is cheapening so rapidly that detail makes it look worse. They want it simple and open."

Just as not all those who write comics are hacks, however, every non-comic-reader doesn't think they're junk. "Actually, you'd be surprised how many parents tell me how great comics are. Because they teach their kids to read. I know. That's how I got to read; I read some Classics Illustrated and immediately turned around and read Jules Vernes' *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea.* I loved it. I realized, "Hey, there's neat things in those books.' Just so, kids realize that comic books are not the only form of reading enjoyment. Of course, it's wrong for people to read nothing but comics. Or to read nothing but newspapers. Somehow or other, I wish there were a way to get people to read all of it. That would be the ideal." □

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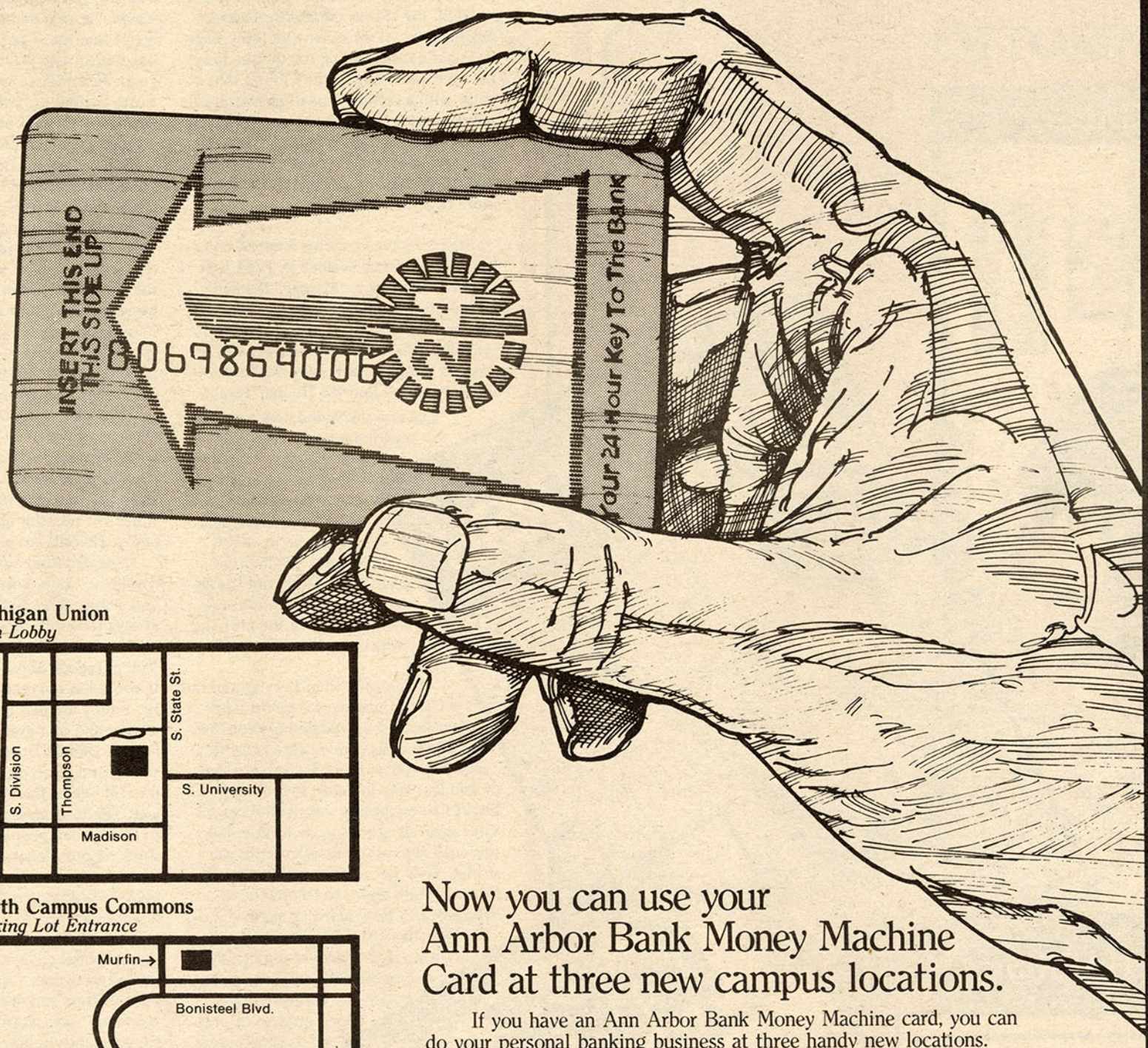

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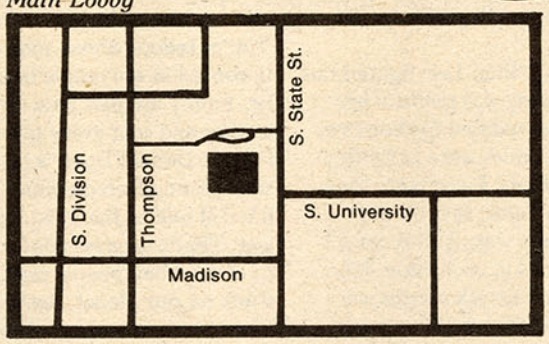

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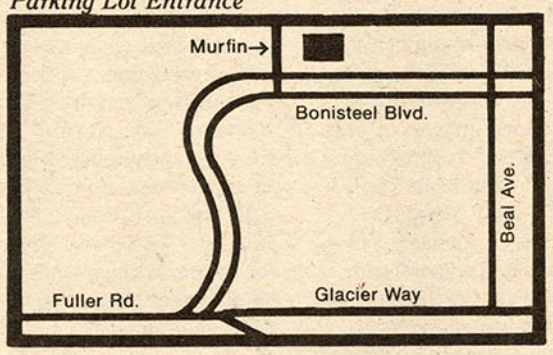

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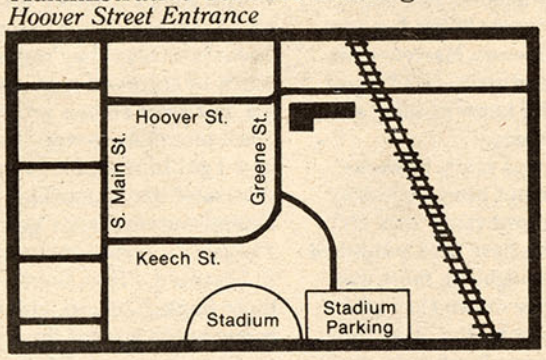

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Two years ago Karen Blackford broke up with her boyfriend and took up running for solace. Before long she may be one of the world's top women marathon runners.

by ED WALTERS

Karen Blackford, a 29-year-old assistant librarian at the U-M Social Work Library, had been running just over two years when she won the Women's Division of the *Detroit Free Press* International Marathon last October fourteenth. Blackford, who at 5'6" and 111 pounds is almost painfully thin, ran the 26.2-mile course between Windsor, Ontario, and Detroit's Belle Isle in 2 hours, 44 minutes and 29 seconds. Her winning time was not only a new state record, it placed her as one of the fastest women marathoners in the country, if not the world. It was quite a feat for someone who has been in training only two years.

Blackford started running in July, 1977, after breaking up with her boyfriend of six years. She told me she would go out and run as fast and as far as she could, to replace the emotional pain with physical pain.

Blackford didn't realize that she had a special talent for running until three months later when she ran five miles in just over half an hour, an excellent time for someone who has only been running that long. In December of 1977, Blackford finished her first ten-mile run. She started meeting other runners, who told her that she was fast, faster than most women runners. Although she was running ning only 25 miles a week, Blackford began to realize that she had the potential to run competitively.

Over the past year she has spent a great deal of time in training, often running over 50 miles a week. She talks regularly with the runners she meets at the U-M Track and Tennis Building for advice and inspiration. She also reads everything written about running she can get her hands on, for tips or information on improving her times.

On a hot autumn day in November, 1978, Blackford ran in her first marathon at Grand Valley. Heat is murderous to long-distance runners, but she posted a respectable time of three hours and twelve minutes for the 26.2-mile course.

While training for the Boston Marathon in the early spring of 1979, Blackford told some relatives from Mount Clemens that she was going to enter and win the women's division of the *Free Press* marathon that October. "Around June," she told me, "I started to get a little worried about living up to that statement." She went to Bill Stewart, a successful local marathoner who had designed her previous training programs, and asked him what she had to do to accomplish her goal.

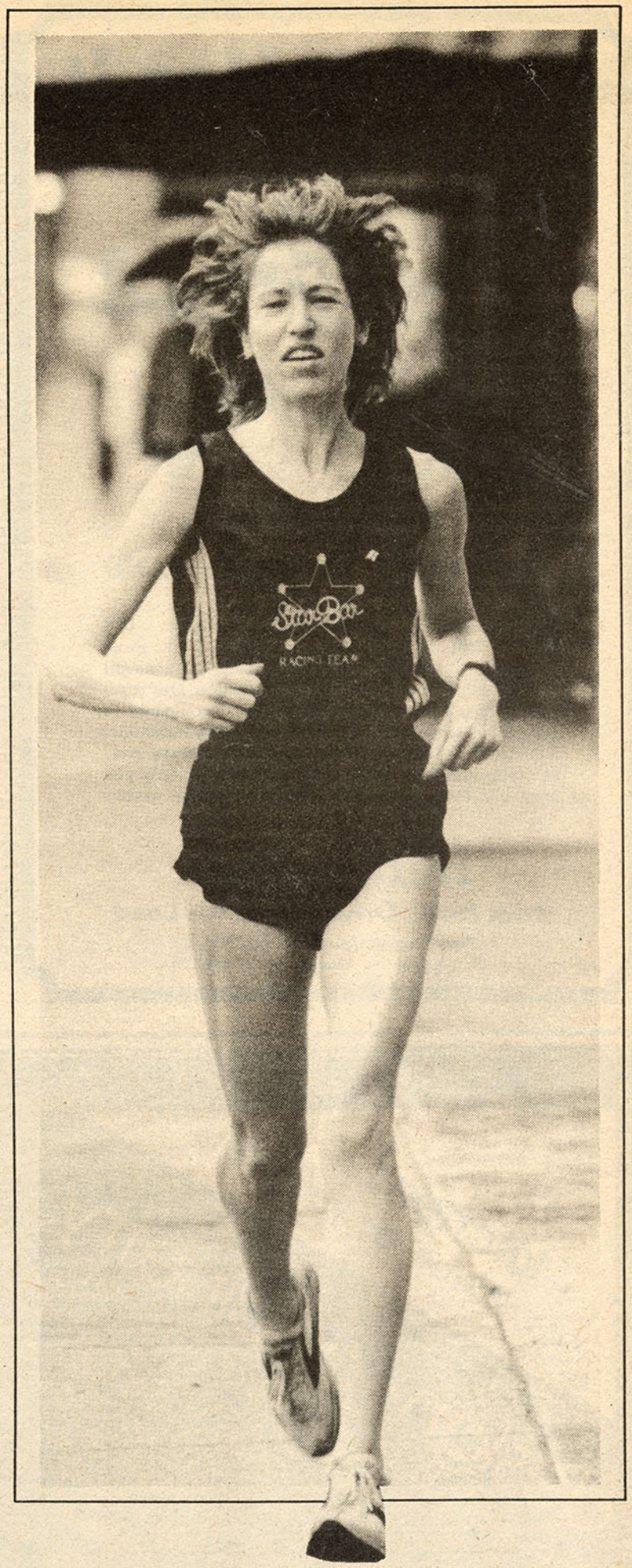
Stewart prepared a program that was so tough that Blackford was sure that she couldn't do it. "I was overwhelmed," she recalled. "I had been running 55 miles a week to prepare for my previous marathons, and he was asking me to run a lot more miles, to start running seven days instead of six, and to do hills and speed work. The strange thing was that I *could* do it."

Blackford prepared for the *Free Press* marathon by running more than 80 miles a week for three months prior to the race. Twice a week, usually Sundays and Thursdays, she would go on long training runs. Starting at the U-M Intramural Building track, she usually ran through the Burns Park neighborhood, then northeast to Gallup Park, across the Huron River valley, through the hilly northeast side of town to the Leslie Park Golf Course, west to Barton Hills Country Club, and back into town along Huron River Drive and Main Street. On her easy days Blackford would run at least eight miles.

The Detroit marathon victory was a surprise only to those who hadn't watched her train. Ann Arbor runners got a preview of Blackford's performance at September's Complete Cuisine run through Ann Arbor, in which she ran a good time over a hilly course. Out-of-towners who only knew Blackford from her times at previous marathons were surprised by her improvement in the *Free Press* marathon. Between Boston in April and Detroit in October, Blackford had shaved a full half-hour off her marathon time.

"I really didn't have much competition in Detroit," she told me. "The closest competitor was Erma Tranter, the previous year's winner. She had come to Detroit hoping to run the race in 2 hours and 50 minutes. I knew from my times on training runs that I could beat that. I was first all the way. I knew from the split times that no woman there could be running faster. Even through mile 20 I was running miles in just over six minutes.

"The hardest part was from mile 22 onward. I was feeling very tired. At that point Jim Burck, who is manager of the Star Bar on Main Street, ran the last four miles with me. He was a great help."



Peter Yates

When I asked her to reveal the secret of her running success, Blackford would only say that she owes it all to "hard work, determination and a lot of encouragement from others around here."

Jim Burck, who has known Blackford since her first ten-mile run, gave a more concrete analysis. "Karen is extremely dedicated to running, incredibly so. She's almost driven. She's a born athlete, she has a marathoner's body with not much body fat, and a very fluid running motion. She trains very hard and very well. In her second year she trained as hard as is physically possible without injuring herself. She also has the necessary ability to 'space-out' while she's running, to forget the ten, fifteen, twenty miles still in front of her." Burck added his own appraisal of Blackford's success. "No one trains as hard as she does. There's no reason why she shouldn't be the best."

Plans for future races are still unsettled, but Blackford is committed to running in Boston in April, an all-expense-paid trip she received for winning the Detroit race. She still hasn't admitted to herself that she is one of the country's top women marathoners. "I keep looking at other women's times," she said. "I think, 'She's a good runner,' and then I realize that I'm up there, too." □

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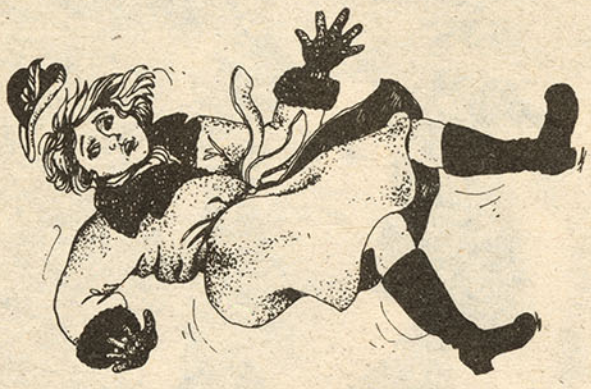

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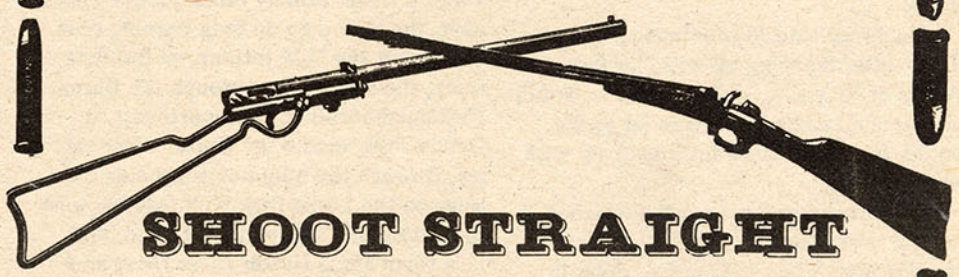

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Peter Yates

Is Coaching Success Worth It?

Michigan's Johnny Orr has established a national reputation as a top basketball coach. But the very success he enjoys seems to add to the pressures that plague him.

By DOUG BLACKBURN

A coach's worth is ultimately measured by his team's success, so it would seem that if any University of Michigan coach has proven his competency, Johnny Orr has. Orr, about to begin his twelth year as head coach of the U-M men's basketball team, is the winningest coach in Michigan basketball history. During one four-year period, from 1974 through 1977, Orr's teams won 92 and lost just 24 games. Twice in that time Michigan won the Big Ten Championship. The Wolverines established an impressive national reputation as they set a Big Ten record by making the postseason NCAA tournament for four straight years.

In 1976, the Michigan basketball team enjoyed its finest season ever under Orr. The team finished second in the nation, losing in the NCAA finals to Indiana, the same team that edged the Wolverines out of the conference title that year. None of the pre-season prognosticators had predicted Michigan's sensational 1976 season. In recognition, the country's college coaches selected Orr Coach of the Year for 1976.

Only a handful of coaches throughout the country can match Orr's record at Michigan, a record that has skyrocketed the 52-year-old Illinois native to the ranks of the elite in his profession. But for being such a successful coach, Orr has a surprising number of critics. Sportswriter Joe Falls of the Detroit News has repeatedly called for Orr's resignation. Many critics over the years have said that it is not Orr, but the talented assistant coaches he has recruited, who are responsible for the team's winning ways. Increasingly, there are rumors that the upcoming season will be Orr's last.

Orr's recent problems

Such charges and rumors seem an unjust response to the successful career of a coach who is both likable and humble. But Orr's reputation has not been helped by his team's recent performance. Over the past two seasons, the Wolverines have been unable to maintain their high level of success, finishing 16 - 11 in 1978 and 15 - 12 last year. A major factor was the devastating knee injury to one of the greatest Michigan players ever—center Phil Hubbard. But many Michigan fans have come to expect a nationally prominent men's basketball team, injuries or no injuries. Last February 24 booes rang through Crisler Arena as the Wolverines fell to Purdue, dropping their final and second straight home game.

To exacerbate Orr's problems, this summer he got tangled up in a controversy spurred by some injudicious remarks he made on a Detroit radio program. It happened the day of the professional basketball draft, when Orr's star center Hubbard was drafted by the Detroit Pistons. Orr had thought Hubbard would not be drafted and would return to Michigan this year where he could be the difference between a brilliant or gloomy season for the Wolverines. After hearing of Hubbard's disastrous defection to the pro ranks, Orr, obviously upset, was the guest on Detroit WXYZ radio's "Sportstalk," hosted by Ron Cameron. Orr, responding to listeners calling in, spoke disparagingly of Michigan State's popular star Greg Kelser, whom the Pistons had drafted ahead of Hubbard. "Kelser couldn't carry Clark Kellogg's shoes," he said. (Kellogg is a high school senior Orr and his assistants tried to lure to Michigan; he selected Ohio State.) Orr also said, "I doubt seriously if Hubbard will sign with the Pistons. I think he'll wait until next year and go with a better team. He's too good to play for the Pistons," adding more fuel to the fiery relationship between himself and Piston coach Dick Vitale.

The week following these remarks Orr was lambasted by the sports columnists of major newspapers across the state. He was familiar with this treatment from the two Detroit papers, the *Free Press* and the *News*. But even *The Ann Arbor News*, a paper with a reputation for rarely criticizing U-M sports figures, published a column by one of its Booth chain correspondents claiming Orr was about to be fired by his boss, Athletic Director Don Canham.

Orr was not fired. However, it is rare for a head coach at Michigan to receive such a sharp tongue-lashing from the regional press. And Orr's troubles may not be over. The experts, pointing to the loss of Hubbard, a rather lean U-M recruiting year, and a much improved league, see Michigan as one of the Big Ten's weakest basketball teams this season. The Wolverines could conceivably finish with a losing record for the first time in a decade. Even Johnny Orr's supporters are beginning to concede that the Big Ten's senior basketball coach faces a difficult time ahead.

The long coaching trail to Michigan

The upcoming U-M basketball season is not the first major challenge for John Orr. Born in 1927, Orr's high school athletic performance won him a scholarship to the University of Illinois. In his only year at Illinois, the 17-year-old freshman made second-team All Big Ten in football and honorable mention in basketball. After his freshman year, 1944, Orr spent fifteen months in the Navy, then returned to Beloit College, where he was named most valuable player three times and All American twice.

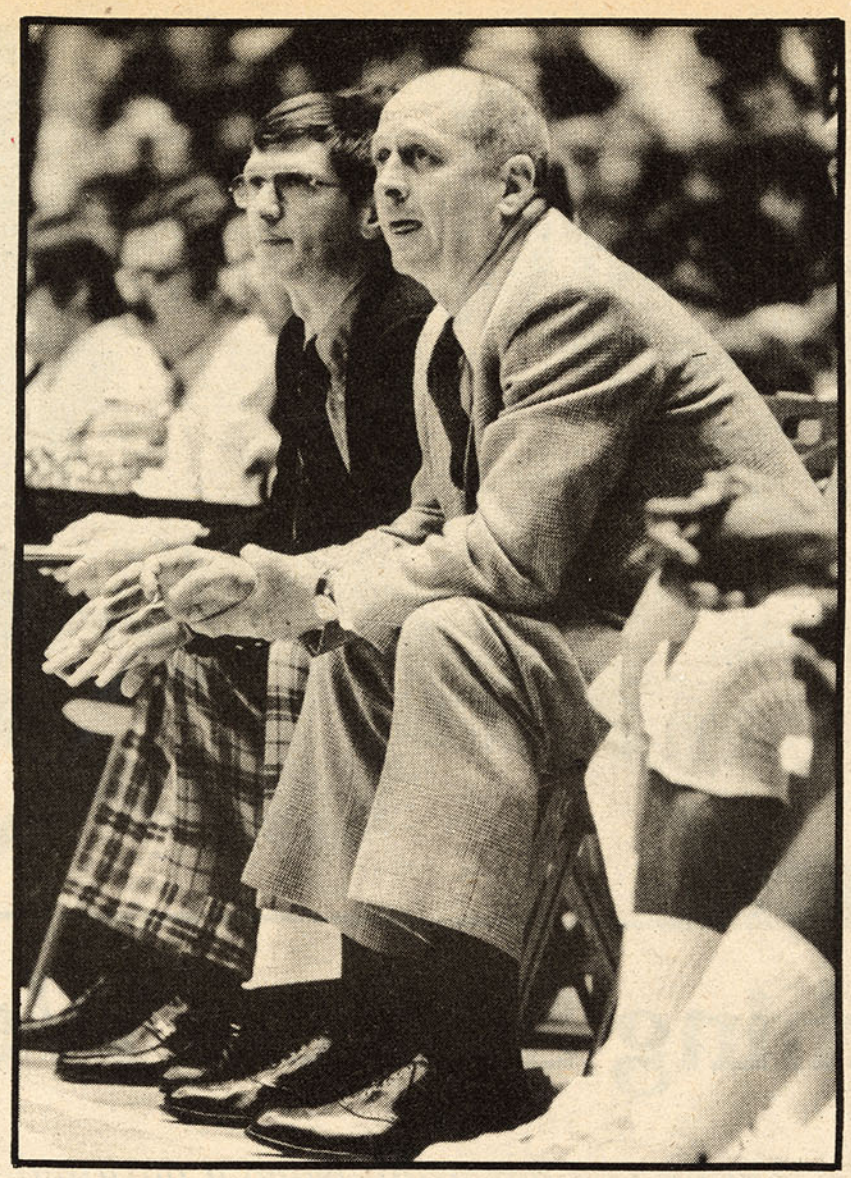
Orr then began coaching—and winning—on the high school level. In one year at Union High in Milton, Wisconsin, he produced the school's winningest basketball team ever. He then spent eight years at the public high school in Dubuque, Iowa, where he taught world history and was in charge of the school's basketball, football and golf teams. From Dubuque Orr moved in 1959 to the college ranks at the University of Wisconsin as assistant basketball coach and line coach for freshman football. Four years later, at age 36, he became the head basketball coach of the University of Massachusetts. In three years, Orr's team slipped from a 15 - 9 record to 11 - 13. After his third year, he abandoned coaching altogether and moved his family to Champagne-Urbana, Illinois, where he sold insurance. But his retirement from the coaching ranks was only temporary.

The difficult first years

"John missed coaching, and he wanted to get back in it," remembers University of Arizona Athletic Director Dave Strack, Michigan's basketball coach in 1967. He hired Orr as his assistant after that year in the insurance business. "I had observed John closely as an assistant, as a scout, and as a tactician at Wisconsin," Strack says. "I knew that he was personable and a good recruiter, and I felt I needed someone of his age with his credentials and experience to help me."

One year later Strack resigned, and U-M Athletic Director Don Canham named Johnny Orr head coach. 'I thought his enthusiasm and recruiting skills were good," says Canham. "We knew he knew the business with all of his experience. You know, they make a coach out of you in this business if you stick with it long enough, and John had a fine background."

Michigan's basketball program did not shine immediately under Orr. In fact, his performance was the center of controversy for two years—1972 and 1973—prior to his four sterling seasons. Many fans were outraged that the talent-laden Wolverines' '72 and '73 teams (which included All-Americans Henry Wilmore and Campy Russell) should be producing such mediocre statistics (14 - 10 in '72 and 13 - 11 in '73). Some disappointed fans raucously claimed Orr was to blame. The Michigan mentor was booed loudly and often, and some of his most vocal critics were students who formed a Dump Orr campaign, using that slogan as their theme in student government campaigns.



The tensions of the game *are the least of Orr's problems. In the above photo he watches the fortunes of the Michigan team with assistant coach Bill Frieder.*

Orr's detractors were quickly silenced by the performance of the 1974 team, one of the most exciting and best-coached Wolverine teams ever. Michigan got to the national quarter-finals, finishing with a 22 - 5 record, and the school's basketball team began its most successful period ever.

Suddenly Michigan basketball became like its autumn counterpart, football. Crisler Arena, rarely half full for the 1973 season, began to sell out for an occasional big game. Within three years, every home game was sold out. Winning basketball games at Michigan became almost as routine as winning football games. Under Orr, a nationally-ranked basketball team has become expected, not just hoped for. Thus the very success Orr has enjoyed as Michigan's basketball coach puts all the more pressure on him to continue producing nationally contending teams.

The hectic life of a coach

Life moves at a hectic pace for all major college basketball coaches. The December - March regular season of 15-hour days is sandwiched by two equally intense four-month periods when the goal is recruiting the country's top high school players. How well the recruiting goes largely determines how well a team will fare. The best recruits, along with the best coaches, make the greatest teams.

Orr's life is all the more hectic because he is one of the most sought-after engagement speakers of the country's college coaches. His droll, often self-effacing stories are appreciated everywhere, and the number of banquets he attends has increased over the past few years to the point where they seem at times to dominate his life.

Then there is Johnny Orr Enterprises. The Michigan coach made a one-man corporation of himself several years ago, mostly to provide himself with a tax shelter, according to Orr. With his assistant coach, Bill Frieder, Orr is co-director of the Johnny Orr Basketball Camp, a successful summer program which he operates at Concordia Lutheran College. Along with Ann Arbor insurance agent Clem Gill, Orr has purchased a local condominium. And along with Gill, Moe Sports Shop owner Bud Van De Wege, and Dexter insurance agent Carl Genske, Orr has gone into the restaurant business with Thano Masters, owner of the Lamplighter (the same restaurant where the Wolverine basketball team eats many of its meals). The foursome are joint owners of a soon-to-open establishment on East Washington, which will be an elegant sister restaurant to the Lamplighter.

Even in early August, when I interviewed Orr at his home on Farmbrook Court in Georgetown, it was clear that the pace doesn't let up for the 52-year-old basketball coach even during what should be the most off part of his off-season. His basketball camp had ended recently. Soon Orr would again hit the road and begin visiting with this year's top high school prospects. The next day he was leaving for a five-day swing through northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin, attending all-star camps which cater to the finest high school players. He would also meet with the families of the young men already singled out as "possibles" by Orr's assistants.

Earlier in the day, Orr had gone off to look at a house that sounded like a good buy in plush northeastern Ann Arbor. The home, located on one of the city's more obscure one-block circles, proved unfindable, and Orr, in his determination to see it, drove the gas tank dry. He then had to fetch gas for his car, putting him behind schedule. That same day included

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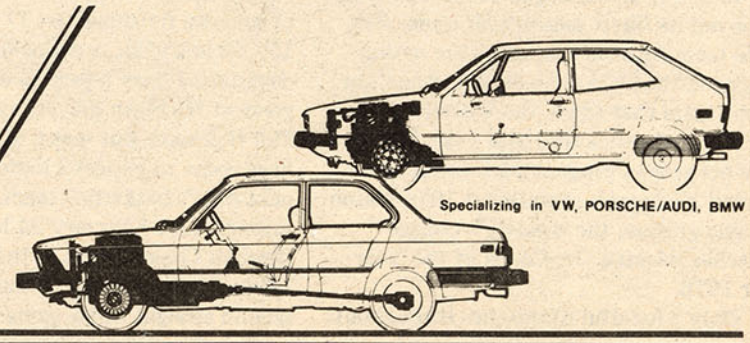

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a long, friendly meeting with his center, John Garris, the inexperienced sophomore Orr is counting on to fill in for Hubbard; a business call from Thano Masters outlining essential legal matters Orr must act on tomorrow before leaving for Illinois so their restaurant can open this fall; and an affectionate thank-you call from former Wolverine captain Wayman Britt, telling Orr he appreciated his taking care of a nephew at Orr's summer camp. The Orrs were to cap the day by a trip to a Tigers' game as Detroit manager Sparky Anderson's guests—a trip finally canceled because both the Orrs were exhausted.

Orr's twin nightmares: recruiting and the press

The Taylorville, Illinois, native's voice crackles with the twang of his coal-mining father. "You know, Coach," says Orr, who almost always addresses conversation companions with his own job title, "there are only two things that'd ever drive me out of this business—the press and recruiting.

"I'm so tired of being falsely portrayed by different reporters. Most of the guys, I get along great with 'em. But some of them—one of 'em, really, Joe Falls—he's done his best to ruin my image. I don't care if he doesn't like me. Hell, I don't even care if he disagrees with everything I say. What I hate is when he writes out-and-out lies. When he comes out and says I'm dodging him all the time, that I'm afraid to talk things over with him—that isn't true. And when he came out last spring and accused me of being jealous of Michigan State playing in the finals—that just isn't true."

Joe Falls, a well-known sports columnist now with the *Detroit News,* was one of the reporters who chastised Orr this summer. In the most harshly worded piece to appear during one fateful June week, Falls, a long-standing critic of Orr, declared that Orr should resign and went on to describe Orr as "two-faced."

I caught up with Falls this autumn and asked him to explain his feelings toward Orr. "My difficulty with Johnny Orr is very simple—I think he's two-faced," the feisty sportswriter told me. "To my face he shakes my hand and slaps my back and says 'Joe, how are you doing?' Behind my back he cuts me constantly." Falls said that after he interviewed Orr in East Lansing following the Wolverines' upset 1978 win over Michigan State, Orr gave him the finger as he walked away. "Why not to my face? I have absolutely no respect for the man. If he told me I was a big shit to my face, I would probably kiss his cheek and say, 'John, that's a beginning.' "

The pair's feud goes back a long time. While a columnist for the *Detroit Free Press,* Falls criticized Orr strongly during his first two U-M years when the team was floundering. Even so, Orr has tried to mend fences with Falls. In 1977, shortly before the number-one ranked Wolverines began play in the NCAA tournament, Orr decided that he and his assistant Dan Fife could take time away from watching game films to meet with Falls. He asked Fife to get an extra submarine sandwich and milkshake for his number one media critic. But almost before the peace conference had begun, Falls bluntly told Orr, "John, if you guys don't win the national championship this year, I'll consider you a failure."

Falls' intemperate remark immediately spoiled any chance for détente. There was no violent explosion by Orr, just a diplomatic, "How can you say that, Joe?" But whatever possibilities that had existed for a polite working relationship between the two ended right there, as far as Orr is concerned. They do not speak to this day, except for a rare formal hello when confronted by one another. Their animosity runs so high, in fact, that Orr once confided to a sportswriter, "I'd rather get Joe Falls fired than win basketball games."

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Such battles between coaches and media critics are not uncommon. What is uncommon, however, is when a coach battles with as many members of the media as Orr does. He singles out Falls as his one adversary from the press, but there has been friction between Orr and WDIV television's Al Ackerman, *Detroit Free Press* columnist Joe LaPointe, *Flint Journal* sports writer Dean Howe, and *Ann Arbor News* sports writer Jeff Mortimer.

Mortimer has chronicled Michigan basketball for the *News* since Orr's second season and written the only book on the history of Wolverine basketball. He is unquestionably the media's authority on Orr. In March of 1976, following Michigan's upset loss in the national quarterfinals to the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Mortimer wrote a column that caused a serious falling-out with Orr. The column said the Wolverines' three seniors had failed to provide the leadership necessary to make Michigan the championship team it was rated to be. Orr felt the column was a personal attack, and he in turn attacked Mortimer, saying the *News'* writer accepted everything from drinks to plane reservations from the Michigan staff. From then on, Mortimer traveled to away U-M basketball games alone.

"John has only one standard that he applies to people of the media: either you're for me or against me," explains Mortimer. He says Orr doesn't understand that writers critical of Michigan are not necessarily against the team. Mortimer recalls one occasion when Orr gave him a concrete example of how critical or "negative stuff" written about Michigan basketball can harm his program. Orr told Mortimer that in order to win the recruiting war for high school sensation Mike McGee, a member of the Minnesota staff clipped the controversial column by Mortimer about the three U-M seniors and sent it to McGee with a note saying, "See, this is how Michigan treats its seniors." McGee, who ultimately came to Michigan, has told Mortimer he never received any such letter, and no one Mortimer contacted from the Minnesota athletic department knows anything about the alleged letter. "It wasn't the only time Orr told me one thing, and I found out later it was completely false," says Mortimer.

Indeed, at times Orr's feelings about how the press treats him seems to border on paranoia. Orr's explanation for why *The Ann Arbor News'* chain correspondent Dean Howe wrote a column this summer predicting Orr would be fired is, "Dean Howe wrote that because he'll do anything to get Bill Frieder (Orr's top assistant) my job." It was not a question of me being wrong, says Orr, but that the reporter had to get me out in order to get his friend in.

"What it gets down to is John Orr's insecurity," says Mortimer. "I think, at bottom, he doesn't really believe he has achieved the success that he has. He's afraid that somebody's going to come and take it all away from him. He's going to be found out. And so he's got to hang onto it, and defend it against all enemies, or else he won't have it any more. He has made it, but the little boy in him still doesn't believe it. I mean, we're talking about the only child of a coal miner who for a long time didn't dream about being anything but a high school coach."

Being the subject of journalists' sometimes poisonous pens is as much a part of coaching as recruiting high school players and winning games. No doubt it's a difficult part of the job, but it's also one which a coach has to learn to handle.

According to Dan Fife, who began playing varsity basketball at Michigan when Orr took over as head coach and returned to Michigan in 1975 to serve as

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Orr's assistant, the media criticism a coach is subjected to is enough to drive anyone out of the business. Fife says it is one of the main reasons he abandoned his coaching career earlier this year to manage a golf course near his home town of Clarkston.

"John Orr is hurt terribly by negative remarks," Fife told me. "Maybe Orr's got too many feelings, I don't know. I do know he tries hard to maintain good relations with the media—too hard sometimes. He bends over backwards for them sometimes, and they don't even seem to appreciate it. He could be like Bobby Knight [Indiana's volatile basketball coach, a man who refuses to ever meet with the media], but Orr's got too much class for that."

The insanity of collegiate recruiting

Recruiting is the other aspect of coaching that Orr says is capable of "driving me out of this business." Here too, the Michigan coach seems to be struggling. Orr and his assistants have failed in every one of their bids to land the blue-chip recruits they've tried for since signing Hubbard in 1975. Michigan has narrowly missed out on Maryland star Albert King in 1976, on Michigan State star Earvin Johnson and Ohio State sensation Herb Williams in 1977, and on last year's top Ohio high school star, Clark Kellogg. The Wolverines went down to the wire with each of those high school seniors, but in the end came up empty handed. Michigan has also failed to land a legitimate-sized college center in each of the last seven years.

Bill Frieder, who does much of the recruiting with Orr, describes it as "a simply ridiculous job." Coaches are no longer able to wait and approach a schoolboy sensation when he is a high school senior. Today they must begin contacting future prospects as high school sophomores. By the time the best youngsters have begun their senior year they've already narrowed their college choices to a select few. The amount of time that must be devoted to wooing sixteen-year-old boys who might some day be Wolverines is, by anyone's standards, phenomenal.

Strict national rules have been established, limiting a coach in what he may offer a scholar-athlete and in how many times he may visit him. These rules, like the 55 mile-per-hour speed limit, are according to insiders violated regularly by all and flagrantly by many. But most violations of the NCAA rules are subtle enough to avoid public exposure, lest a university be slapped with probation. This has happened to both Minnesota and Michigan State in recent years, but, according to most coaches, it's usually just a matter of who gets caught, because they're all breaking the rules.

"Hellsfire, Coach," Orr tells me, describing the trials of recruiting, "it has gotten God-awful. You really have to start approaching these kids today when they're freshmen in high school. And the stuff that goes on, oh boy. It's like Congress. I could tell you so many stories about rules being broken, about kids getting money and cars and apartments—but I can't. Nobody would talk to me. At one coach's meeting, where all the biggest name coaches were attending, one guy got up and said, 'All right, all you sanctimonious bastards, everyone here who's never violated a recruiting rule, raise your hands.' No one raised their hand. I couldn't believe it. I thought at least one of the older guys might. Oh, the stories I could tell you. It's like organized crime; it's illegal and it's everywhere," adds Orr, chuckling mournfully at the simile.

Orr's critics are not hard to find

Despite his successful tenure as head coach of the Michigan men's basketball program, Orr's coaching abilities are still questioned by some. There is speculation that Orr will resign "any year" and his replacement will be Frieder. Frieder joined Orr in 1973 and has since refused offers to head basketball programs at several good basketball schools, including Vanderbilt and Fordham. He seems to be waiting patiently for the day when he'll lead the Wolverines himself.

As to the periodic claims that Orr's assistants do the coaching while Orr is merely a figurehead for the team, Frieder told me, "I think that's just a bunch of nonsense. One of the biggest reasons for that claim is that John has always given his staff a great deal of credit—which is something most coaches are too insecure to do. We do the same things as other assistant coaches, we just get more credit is all. I think John Orr is one of the most underrated coaches in the business."

Ex-assistant coach Dan Fife echoes Frieder's sentiments, saying he's "sick of hearing people say John's assistants do the coaching. They're saying it about Frieder today just like they used to say it

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about Freddie Snowden and Jim Dutcher, too. [Both are former assistants to Orr now heading major college teams.] Orr lets them have a little freedom and he gives them a little praise, which is a rare thing for a head coach to do. Then they get attention from the media, but it doesn't bother Orr. I respect him for that."

The general consensus is that Orr is an excellent practice coach. Frieder describes Orr as "organized as hell. Our practices run like clockwork." Orr employs detailed daily and master schedules which are followed closely. His plans make practices run so smoothly that at times it seems like no coaching is being done.

A less agreed upon matter is how good of a game coach or "bench" coach Orr is. During time-outs it seems that Frieder does most of the talking, but Frieder claims that there is little that can be said or learned during a one-minute time-out. Frieder says that Orr is a fine bench coach. Reporter Mortimer, however, pointing to Michigan's losses in the national quarter-finals to Marquette in 1974 and to North Carolina-Charlotte in 1976, says he has seen the Michigan mentor have rivals "coach the pants off of him" in a number of important contests.

The most qualified critics of Orr's coaching talents might be the Michigan players, both past and present. But here it is difficult to get candid assessments.

"He's a very powerful man," said one former player, explaining how Orr is able to help his players find high school coaching jobs as well as other kinds of work. "I can't talk about the man, he helped me get a job. He's too powerful a person."

Several other former players gave similar reasons for not wanting to be identified with observations about Orr's coaching abilities, because they too do not think of him as a good coach. "As far as I'm concerned, he's not the coach. Frieder's the main man," said one. Another said, "All Orr ever does is scream at you hard, and you get so afraid to make a mistake that you can't help but goof up. Then he takes you out of the game." One of the more reflective players on this year's team observed that Orr no longer enjoys coaching like he did three years ago, and after one good season, he'll likely step out a winner. He's more devoted to business interests these days, added the player.

Mortimer agrees with this analysis. He recalls having lunch with Orr last season in Evanston before the Northwestern game. The coach began complaining about the team and how it was doing. "What he finally got down to was that he was upset," says Mortimer. "He said, 'Coach, I've got money in that thing, and I've got money in something else, and if this team goes bad on me, nobody's going to want me to get in on any future business deals with 'em. A lot of deals might fall through, and this could cost me a lot of money if this team doesn't get straightened out.' " Mortimer says he was shocked to hear this from Orr, and he wonders to this day whether he should have written a story about Orr's remarks.

I asked Orr to comment on what Mortimer told me, and he said although he can't remember the conversation, Mortimer must have misunderstood or misinterpreted his remarks. Orr said that while a coach's outside fortunes are correlated directly with his coaching success, he has never had to worry about anything like

that.

When told of the uncomplimentary remarks the players had made about Orr, and of their fear of him as a powerful person, Mortimer was not at all surprised. "The man has a lot of power—whether it's real or imagined. If people think he has power, he does," observes Mortimer. "If I were to characterize the players' attitude towards Orr while I was covering the team, the safest generalization I could make would be indifference. I never heard them talk about him much, and when they did, it was like he was something that had to be taken into account. But I never heard them speak terribly fondly of him or talk highly of him as a coach. Most of them didn't like to talk about him."

The coming season is a crucial test

It may be unfair to have a coach judged in such a subjective manner. There is an old saying in sports, "Don't give me the details, just tell me who won the game." There are many who refrain from—and even disdain—such microscopic inspections of a sportsman's personality and ability.

Orr, as he prepares for one of his most difficult and challenging seasons, sees himself as a good coach—and with good reason. He is the winningest coach in Michigan history. He is well-liked by his peers—a tribute to anyone in any profession. He says he enjoys coaching, that he likes his players and that, most importantly, they like and respect him. Orr makes a point of keeping in touch with his former players, and he is genuinely interested in their careers. When it is possible, he helps them in whatever way he can.

As for the controversial comments he made this summer, Orr says he's sorry for any harm that might have come to The University of Michigan. He has apologized personally to the Michigan State player he criticized, but he maintains that everything he said on the radio talk show was his honest opinion then—and now. Michigan Athletic Director Don Canham says that, contrary to the columnists' writings, Orr's job was never in jeopardy. "I've spoken briefly with John about it. John came in and said he was sorry, that he had made some statements he regretted, and that was the end of it. I don't censor people, and I'd hate to see someone haunted by something like that for the rest of their life."

It seems the controversy this summer has subsided, at least temporarily. The clamor can be expected to resume, though, should the media and the Michigan fans find themselves watching a mediocre Orr-coached Wolverine basketball team. They will call for the resignation—or firing—of a man who's been on the job for twelve years and is the person responsible for a packed Crisler Arena, for the best four straight years of Michigan basketball ever, and for the Michigan basketball team's rise to national prominence. This year's team appears to be a team with its back against the wall, with little in the way of exceptional talent. Its position is curiously similar to the one Johnny Orr faced in 1973 when he silenced his critics with a gutsy, winning team. □

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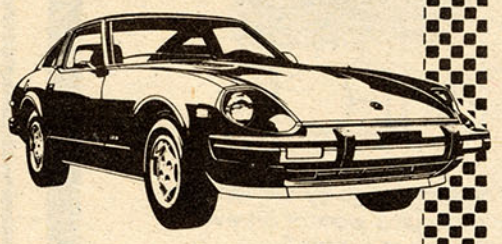

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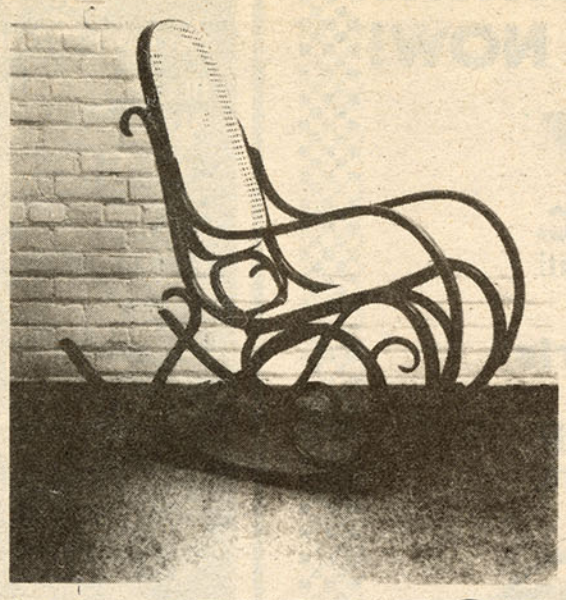

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CHANGES

New Main Street shops have punning names: Afterwords sells remaindered books . . .

Afterwords is the name of a new book store, specializing in remainders, which is moving into the space at 219 South Main previously occupied by American Handicrafts. Its partners are Jay Platt (owner of the West Side Book Shop, the used book store around the corner at 113 West Liberty) and Steve and Shelly Kelly. Platt has long wanted to start a downtown store for new books, and when Main Street space became available and the Kellys, who will manage the store, moved back to town, he jumped at the opportunity.

Remaindered books are new books that generally retail at 40% of the publisher's list price. The owners intend to stock the best selection of remainders in town by purchasing from more outlets than other local book stores buy from. They eventually plan to purchase direct from publishers for even greater reductions.

Remaindering is the means by which publishers can cut losses incurred by overproducing and overstocking certain titles. A remaindered book is by no means necessarily a loser. As Steve Kelly described the remainders business to us, the book could be part of a best-selling title's last press run before it goes into paperback, or it could be a steady seller about which the publisher made over-optimistic sales predictions at the beginning of the selling season.

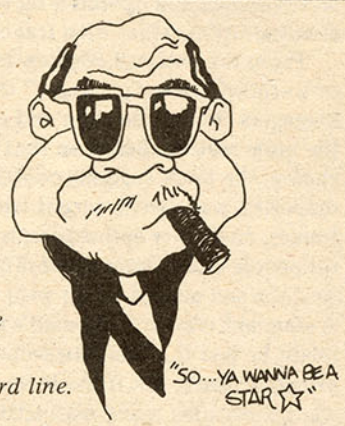
Most titles, especially fiction, are remaindered as soon as their paperback editions come out. Practically all books are eventually remaindered, Steve said, and most (except for works of established fiction authors and some non-fiction titles) then become out of print — that is, not stocked by the original publisher.

About a dozen outlets buy remaindered copies in large lots from publishers, warehouse them, and sell them to retailers. Many retailers choose not to develop their remainder business beyond a few tables, because it conflicts with sales of new titles. But with book prices soaring due to mounting production costs, remainders look pretty good to budget-conscious buyers, who can get hardback quality and readability at near-paperback prices.

Steve Kelly, a former psychology grad student and high school English teacher, has been in the book business for eleven years, having started at Ned's Books in Ypsilanti, where, it seems, most of Ann Arbor's book dealers got their early training. Shelly is an artist (she does airbrush watercolors of fantasy subjects) with a special interest in illustrations of children's books.

The couple will open the store as soon as the space is available in early November. Their line will be expanded and filled in after Christmas. Also included may be best-selling hardback titles and a bigger magazine selection than now is available downtown. "My eventual fantasy," Steve told us, "is to pick an area of specialization — probably children's books — and deal not only with remainders but with new stock and antiquarian specialties."

. . . next to Urone Card Store.



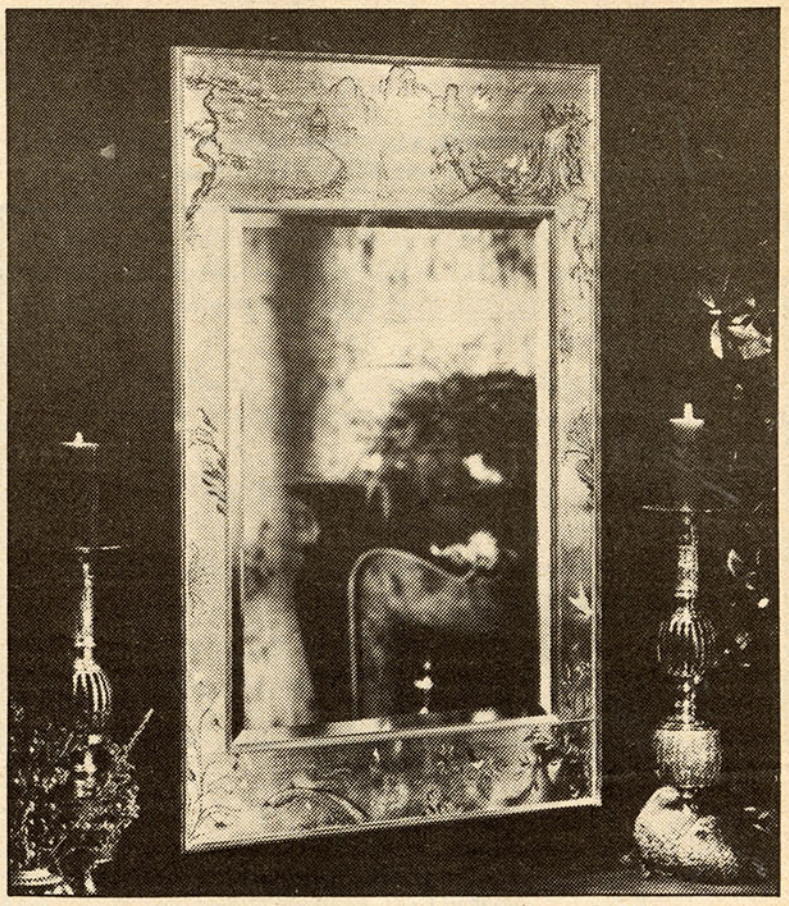
A sample from the Urone Card line.

At 221 South Main, next door to the new book shop, **Urone Card Store** will open early in December, just in time for Christmas, in a 20' x 30' space to be constructed in the front of Insta-Print. It will take another month or so to stock the store fully, according to co-owner Dennis Jones. Urone Card Store ("Ur" is Paul *Ur*banski, "one" is Dennis *Jones*; together they make "your own" card store — get it?) is the retail division of Urone Card Company, Urbanski and Jones's fledgling wholesale greeting card company. The store will sell contemporary, design-oriented greeting cards, wrapping paper, and some posters and prints — all of what Jones calls an "alternative" nature, for want of a better word. Middle Earth, where Jones has been manager for the past five years, stocks "alternative" cards, for example — there's not a Hallmark card in the place, nor will there be at Urone Card Store, either.

Insta-Print owner John Dietrich is also a partner in the card store. Insta-Print will continue business as usual in the back part of the sizable space, with its order desk built into one section of the card store's back wall. Dietrich also has a larger commercial printing shop, John Dietrich & Associates, on Brooks Street, which requires an increasing share of his attention.

The card store will be a "test ground" for the cards Urone Card Company produces, according to Jones, 31, a bespectacled, long-haired Californian, who is the firm's business brains. Urbanski, 26, a U-M art school grad, is the artist. They both come up with card ideas which derive from their offbeat, weirdly inspired observations of everyday subjects and situations.

Urbanski and Jones hope Urone Card Company can succeed with their current general-purpose cards that don't fit a specific occasion like birthdays or Valentine's Day. But their store will carry other lines and include cards and paper for all occasions.



Chinoiserie images abound on this exquisite framed mirror by LaBarge. The beautifully hand-painted wood frame panels are gold metal leafed, surrounded by anodized gold moulding. Beveled mirror plate. 43×29" full size. $**656**.

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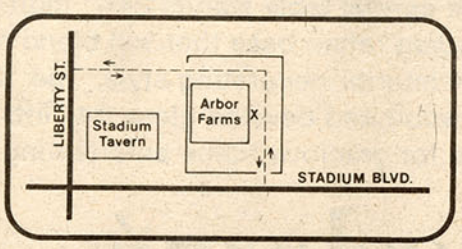
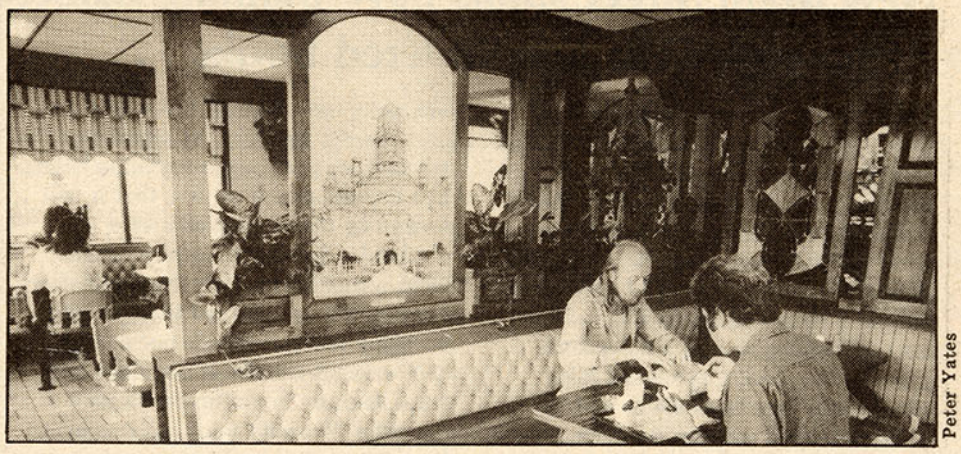


CONVENIENT PARKING

CHANGES/continued

The McDonald philosophy of fast-food decor.



Peter Yates

The McDonald's on West Stadium, recently remodeled from a take-out store to accommodate seating for 72, is something of a landmark among the fast-food giant's employees in this region. Opened as a drive-in in April, 1958, it's a two-generation store that attracts the high-school-age kids of the grown-up kids who hung out there in its early days. Number 113 in a chain that now numbers over 5,000, for years it boasted the only pair of golden arches in southeast Michigan this side of Detroit.

Last summer, when workers were ripping up the restaurant's floor for the expansion, there was revealed a patch of red-and-white striped tiles of vintage McDonald's suburban-strip architecture, hearkening back to a day when the golden arches, now reduced to a tasteful logo, were well over twenty feet high and magnificently, tackily flamboyant. Nothing could contrast more with the sophisticated mood of the newly-renovated interior. It's Everyman's version of the oak-and-brass, antique look that's popular in much more expensive restaurants today. The ambience is definitely adult, and the accessories are not cheap: three large, translucent glass panels with etched black-line drawings of U-M landmarks (the Law Quad, Clements Library, and the old University Hall); sepia-toned prints of old campus photos, framed in wood; two stained-glass windows; and at least seven varieties of living plants in many small pots, sconces, and boxes.

The first impression is of mellow old wood, antique accent pieces, and a tasteful blue-and-beige color scheme that bespeaks a country club rather than a fast food place. But closer inspection reveals no oak at all, rather a mix of stained wood and woodgrain plastic surfaces, and the same blue-and-tan vinyl and plastic seats we'd seen earlier in a Florida McDonald's with a nautical theme.

The McDonald Corporation pioneered rigidly-controlled hamburger and fast-food production, and it's apparent that, in matters of decor, the firm has again led the way — but in the opposite direction: individualization. Some McDonald's restaurants rival historical museums in their presentations of various aspects of local history. Ann Arbor's Maynard Street McDonald's, for which an historic house was razed, picks up the historical theme with close to a hundred photos of old Ann Arbor — conveniently omitting a picture of the house it replaced. The Zeeb Road store, built in the barnyard of a Victorian farm house, sports farm murals. And the McDonald's in Fostoria, Ohio, illustrates that town's significance as a rail center with well-researched visual displays, including a large captioned map of town and big pictures of typical trains.

Wondering who decides the decor of a McDonald's, we were referred to Kathy Van Buren, the Ann Arbor area community relations representative, whose telephone personality we found lively, upbeat, yet earnest, like that of a camp counselor or cheerleader. The McDonald philosophy of store decor, as she explained it, is this: "The McDonald Corporation feels that we are not a big company when we enter a town — we are a single restaurant. We're not just an outside entity, we're trying to become a part of that place. We try to make all our stores so you could say, for instance, 'This is the *Ann Arbor* McDonald's.' "

The job of giving the store a local identity is up to the district supervisor and the individual store's operations manager, at least in places like Ann Arbor, where all the McDonald facilities are company stores owned and operated by the national corporation rather than franchisees.

From the national corporation's book of so-called "decor packages" the local managers choose the style and color of the basic seating. Based on that initial choice, the book suggests coordinating draperies, wallcovers, accent trim, picture frames, and other accessories, but the local people select from those multiple suggestions and also come up with the theme. A standard plastic McDonald's pirate ship might be just the thing for some family-oriented stores, but if the local operators want something really distinctive (like the people in Taylor, Michigan, who wanted a big plastic train with car-like booths to complement their store's railroad decor), the McDonald Corporation decorators wil go to some lengths to locate a source and help fill their request. Local artisans are often used, but specialty manufacturers from across the country may custom produce some items.

The Stadium store's limited space prevented large-scale fantasies, so district supervisor Gene Pushkash and store operations manager Dick Shaeffer chose translucent panels with etched depictions of University of Michigan landmarks. They were made by Davis Designs of Atlanta, Georgia. □

Efforts to save Michigan Theater are on track again

Last July, when Dick Lotz, then president of the Michigan Community Theater Corporation (MCTC), announced that the organization was purchasing the 51-year-old theater and office-commercial building, the deal seemed all sewn up. A big press conference was held by project organizers, who want to acquire and run the 1800-seat former vaudeville house for community performances.

But two months later the deal had unraveled, and Lotz had resigned as president amid some controversy about the way things were being handled. The revenue to be derived from the commercial and office space after deduction of operating expenses turned out to be $60,000 a year, not $120,000. That sum is far from enough to pay for acquiring the theater portion of the building and maintaining it.

Now Mayor Lou Belcher, one of the theater's most enthusiastic backers, is putting together a new plan to have the city purchase only the theater part of the Michigan Theater Building through the sale of general obligation bonds. The city would then lease the theater to the tax-exempt MCTC, which would operate the theater and pay off the bonds to the city with contributions and revenue from bookings. If the theater were purchased for about $500,000 (which seems likely) and financed over 15 years, $58,000 a year would pay off the bonds – not a large sum, considering the revenue already being produced by bookings and benefits.

Though the city would be liable for the debt, "the risk would be almost zit," Belcher told us. "It's a very valuable piece of property, and bookings are already going very well. This plan would give us a civic center for a very, very low, low price. My goodness, look at how much cities like Battle Creek are paying for a civic center—$4.5 to $5 million. It's a shame a city this size doesn't have any substantial meeting or performance facilities of its own – because we've always relied on the U. of M. Now the university is tightening up its scheduling for community events, and we don't want to depend on it."

City council approval is necessary for the city to buy the theater, of course, and Belcher is devoting a lot of time and energy to talking with the city's bond counsel and lining up political support. The matter comes up for a vote November 5. Even though Belcher's Republicans have a 7-4 majority, Belcher isn't taking anything for granted. "City council is a funny animal," he commented. "On any given project, I never know how many votes I'm going to get. They [council members] want to be sure this [the theater project] won't hurt the city's general fund."

Meanwhile, back at the theater, a great variety of events are already taking place, ranging from the recent Ralph Nader lecture and Ricky Nelson rock concert (a benefit for the theater renovation fund) to Sunday afternoon Kiwanis travelogues, Chamber Orchestra Society performances held in the ornate lobby, more rock concerts, and showing of vintage films (also to benefit the theater).

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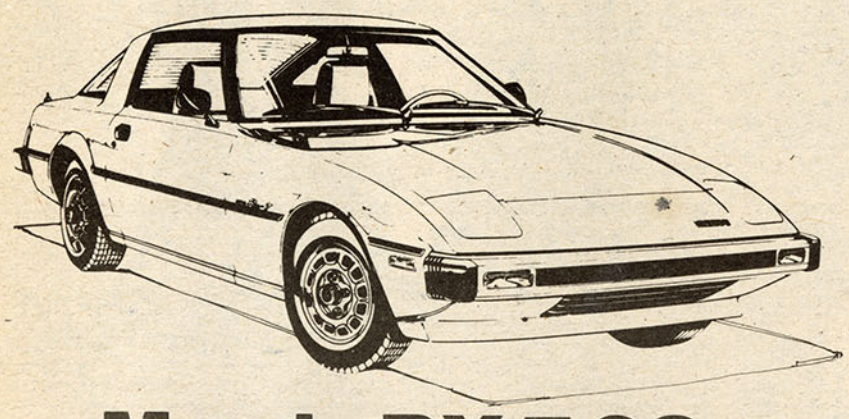

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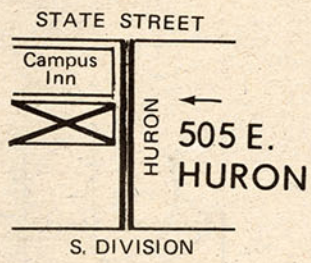

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CHANGES/continued

No longer in a basement: The Fireside Country Store.

Since August the Fireside Country Store has been open for business at 410 W. Huron, in a metal-clad barn (once a grain mill) tucked behind the Ann Arbor Cablevision facility between the railroad tracks and Chapin Street. The grocery, which stocks mainly natural-food-type staples, had actually been going for three-and-a-half years before that, in the basement of Joe and Felice Campbell's house on West Davis at Main.

The Campbells are members of Ann Arbor's Word of God community, a group of well over a thousand charismatic Christians. The community provided a ready-made market for the grocery business, which grew out of the wholesale bakery run by Felice and her mother, Helen Piatkowski, in the converted Campbell garage. Joe, then a University Hospital custodial superintendent, operated the store part-time at first and later full time. Both bakery and store have moved to the new location, and the bakery's cookies and bread are retailed at the store. Soon a pizzeria (not operated by the Campbells) will move into the building, too.

Though many of Fireside's spices, grains, and grain products are the same as you'd find in a natural goods grocery, store manager Joe Campbell makes no claims to offer only "natural" or "organic" products. "We want to carry the basic commodities for shopping without the frills," he said. That means that he carries chocolate and butterscotch chips alongside spices, teas, nuts, and dried fruits. Breyer's ice cream and McDonald's milk coexist next to natural-food standbys like honey-nut granola, long-grain brown rice, and whole-wheat lasagna.

Some items, stocked for convenience, are not especially cheap, Joe said, but good deals can be had on those things he can buy in quantity: Wisconsin cheeses, purchased from two Detroit suppliers; bulk spices and teas; peanut butter, which Joe brings by the truckload from Grand Rapids; and grains and grain products.

"People speak highly of our produce, though it's not much cheaper than the supermarkets," Campbell told us. Some of it is produced on the Word of God community's farm near Stockbridge. Other noteworthy items are Albers' cider at $1.99 a gallon and free-roaming chickens (from a community member's farm). Standard "factory-produced" chickens are also carried.

Customers who buy in bulk can earn discounts. A $100 minimum order of bulk quantities (say, 100 pounds of flour, an 8-pound loaf of cheese, a 35-pound tub of peanut butter, and a big bag of rolled oats) can earn a 15 to 20% discount from regular prices.

Though the store is the Campbell family's private business, it's like a co-op in some ways. As Word of God community members, the Campbells return a sizable portion of their income to their community. They're not getting rich. Futhermore, labor is donated by about fifteen volunteers, mostly community members, which permits low prices in a labor-intensive business. Volunteers repackage most staples into one-pound plastic bags.

There's a friendly, neighborly quality at the store, too. "We are here to serve people," said Joe, a former parochial school teacher who came to Ann Arbor to join the community. "Serving is often missing in our society. There's a lot more in the dynamics of what's going on here than just food." □

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Educational materials, discount clothes at Miller-Maple Plaza

Two unusual new stores have opened in the attractive small shopping center on North Maple Road just north of Miller. They join the Open Pantry Food Shop, Country Farm Meats, and Domino's Pizza already there.

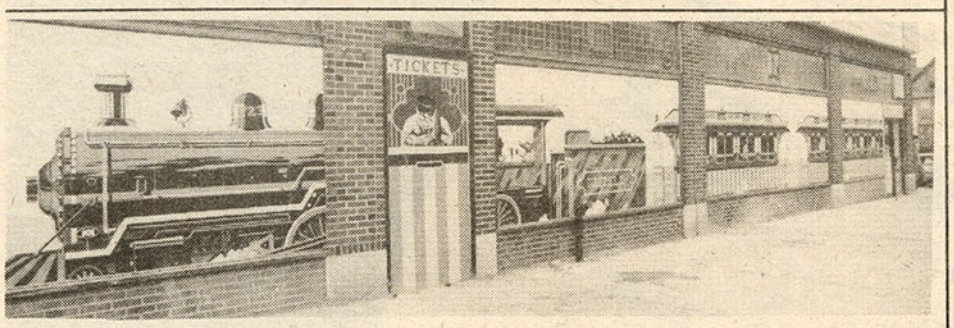
The Penny-Wise Outlet, owned and operated by John and Julia Perry, sells overruns, salesmen's samples, and discontinued styles of women's clothing (no seconds or irregulars) at half of the manufacturer's suggested prices.

Outlet stores and regular clothing stores can both purchase clothing at greatly reduced cost through middlemen who buy up overruns and odd lots from manufacturers, then sell them to retailers. Often the discounted clothes arrive in the stores at the beginning of the season they were designed for.

The Learning Ladder sells educational material to teachers and parents— teachers who want to supplement instructional materials that schools provide, and parents who want to help their kids in school by reinforcing what they learn with educational games at home. The proprietors are Anita Lauckner, a third-grade teacher in Saline, and Doris Taylor, a former elementary and junior high teacher. Lauckner's cousin started the first Learning Ladder in Rochester, Michigan, and approached her in June with the idea of starting an Ann Arbor store. It opened in August. All its employees have teaching backgrounds.

So far the store's big sellers to teachers have been bulletin board materials and books of ditto-master lesson worksheets.

Parents have been buying games like self-checking "turn-and-learn" cards in subjects from math to phonics. The Learning Ladder also stocks many paperback books for children and adolescents; puppets; puzzles; and educational toys for infants to high schoolers.



Assorted Notes

The Village Corner's street-front walls (formerly windows) have been given over to murals for the past ten years, at least. The latest mural is strictly representational, a contrast to the earlier abstract, pop-art compositions of murals. It depicts a train and ticket window. The composition. which incorporates the building's brick piers as design elements, gives the building a surprising new visual solidity. The artist: former V.C. employee Curt Schoultz, now attending college in Manitoba.

Incidentally, the NCN Duke Gallery, described in this space in September, was said to be about to occupy the third floor over Leopold Bloom's restaurant. That is the *private* gallery only. The open-to-the-public part, under the direction of Frank Duff, last month moved into 326 S. Main, next to Ian's Patisserie.

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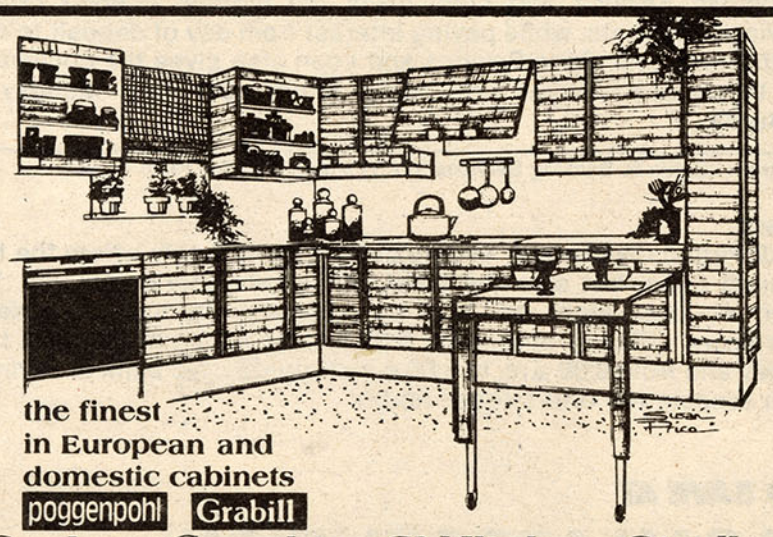

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Sept. 30 1980		147 71	10,574.00

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* from "Guide to Banking Services in Ann Arbor" August 1979

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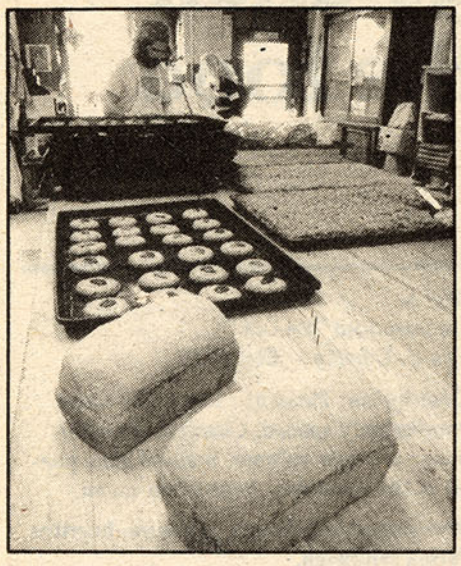
GOOD DEALS

Bread at Wildflour Bakery is a delicious bargain.



Sometimes a business's political or social message overpowers its product. When this happens, consumers may not take the enterprise seriously. Wildflour Community Bakery calls itself "a non-profit community service relying on volunteers." This sounds like a business characterized by noble intentions and an amateurish product. In the case of Wildflour, the idealistic intentions are there, all right, yet the bread it makes is of outstanding quality.

High quality, real nutritional value, and delicious flavor are evident throughout the line of some fifteen varieties of bread. All are good deals. The fine-textured, lofty pound and a half of whole wheat at $1.02 is a spectacular deal, as are the two-and-a-quarter-pound loaf of unyeasted bread and the one-and-a-half-pound seven-grain bread, each at $1.09. Prices vary with the varieties, up to $1.93 for cheddar cheese bread, baked on Thursdays. One full third of this loaf is cheese. It's wonderful when toasted.

Wildflour occupies a space at 208 North Fourth Avenue, between the Peoples Produce Co-op and the Fourth Avenue People's Food Co-op, and handy to the Farmers' Market. A co-op itself, the bakery is allied with the four other Ann Arbor food co-ops. An hour's volunteer work at any of them earns the worker a discount at all the others. Wildflour volunteers also earn a loaf of bread of their choice for an hour and a half's work. The low prices quoted above are regular, undiscounted prices for ordinary customers.

Basic bread varieties like whole wheat are baked every day. More esoteric kinds are baked on a schedule that you can acquaint yourself with on your first visit to the bakery. Cookies and bars complete the line of baked goods. Hours vary slightly with the days of the week, as follows: Monday, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

–Annette Churchill

Good deals on downtown meals.

People who eat out a lot gravitate, by virtue of economic necessity, to certain basic standby meals that are reliable and cheap. Here are some (by no means all) meals at downtown restaurants suggested by downtown regulars. *Other suggestions are welcome,* for downtown and elsewhere.

The Old German's cheese spatzen ($1.00) together with a soup make a satisfying lunch. Recommended by Kathy Duke.

Metzger's hamburger ($1 at lunch) is an ample patty served on a grilled bun with a pickle slice. With a vegetable or potato side dish at 50¢, it's a filling meal.

The gyros sandwich at The Parthenon ($1.95) is, according to many, the best in town— a big pile of beef and lamb sliced from a rotisserie spit.

The Round Table's dollar breakfast includes two eggs, toast and jelly, and coffee or tea with refills. Take a look at the daily lunch specials for other home-cooked deals.

The Del Rio bean burrito (70¢ and seasonal salad ($1.10) make a cheap vegetarian meal. Carrots, cauliflower, onion, and other vegetables on hand make the salad much more than just a pile of lettuce.

The $2.25 lunch special at the Oyster Bar and Spaghetti Machine includes the salad bar (tomatoes, mushrooms, Greek olives, sprouts, capers, fresh croutons, and more) in addition to a huge pile of spaghetti with meat or mushroom sauce *and* a small loaf of French bread.

The Blind Pig's dollar salad (feta cheese, tomatoes, olives and mushrooms on lettuce) is Rodger Zeman's favorite. He says that, together with the 95¢ Number 10 Spanish wine (light and dry) and a piece of bread, it's a gourmet budget meal that can't be beat.

The Cracked Crab luncheon special ($2.95) gives you beer-battered fish (about five ounces) with beer or wine and your choice of chowder or house fries and slaw.

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What are some good deals you know about? We'll pay $5 each for suggestion we accept. Write to "Good Deals," Ann Arbor Observer, 206 South Main, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104. Include details on availability, characteristics, and price of the proposed good deal in relation to similar products or services.

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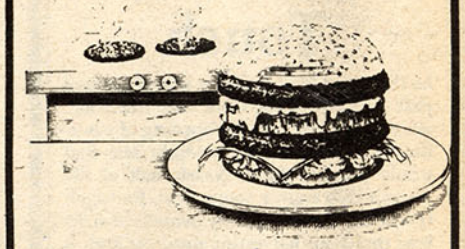

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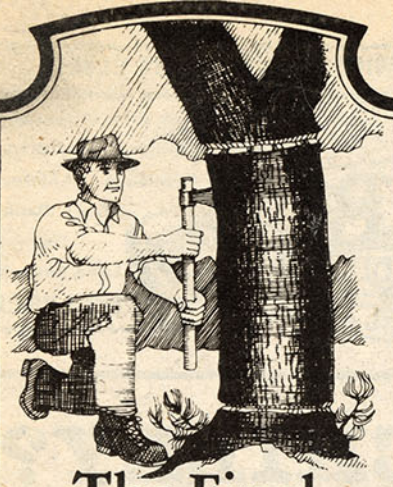
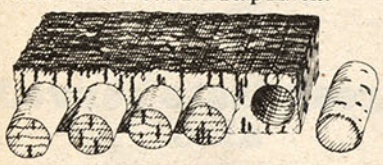


The Final Touch

In the late 17th century it was discovered that the bark of the Cork Oak tree when cut to fit tightly into the opening of a bottle, formed an almost air-tight seal that would preserve wine. Nearly half of the world's cork supply comes from Portugal. It is of the highest quality because of strict laws that limit harvesting until the bark is fully matured (when the tree is 43 years old).

Wine corks are plug-cut across the grain from bark that has been hand stripped, dried for three days, weighed, and boiled to remove tannic acid and sap flavors.



Aesthetically pleasing the cork also allows minute amounts of oxygen to pass through, contributing to the aging process and the development of desirable bottle bouquet in premium wines.

Most corks are 1 3/4 inches long and graded by the number of holes (the less holes, the less chance for leakage).

Because Sebastiani premium wines are aged longer than most, we use only the highest grade 1 3/4 inch Portuguese corks. We feel that wines of such quality deserve this final touch of extra protection.

We invite you to try Sebastiani Barbera which has a unique bottle bouquet. We think you'll agree that the "final touch" is worth it.

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RESTAURANTS

Cultural notes on the vegetarian revival; rave review for the food at Seva.

SEVA
(pronounced "Se - vá")
314 E. Liberty — 662-2019

Description: Pleasant room with tables comfortably spaced. Classical chamber music at a low volume. Stained glass panels at the windows. Vegetarian menu.

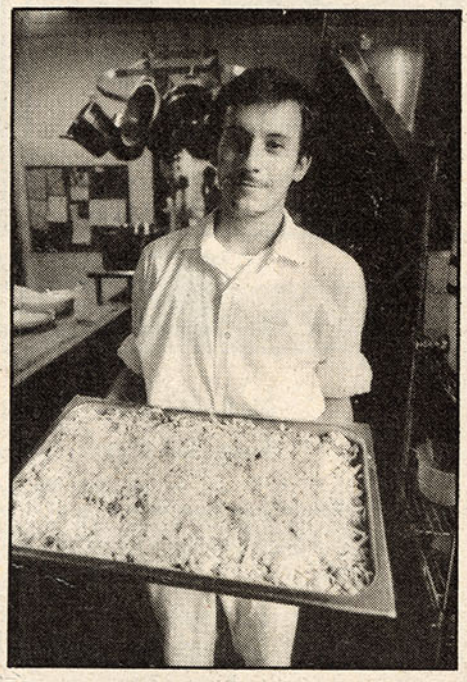
Recommended: Soups, tempura, burritos, Persea sandwich.

Price Range: A la carte menu from $1.95 for a half sandwich to $4.25 for a smothered burrito big enough for two. Lunch and dinner prices the same. No checks, no credit cards, no separate checks.

Hours: Mon. - Thurs. — 11 to 8:30. Fri. and Sat. 11 to 9:30. Sunday Dinner — 4 - 8:30. Sunday Brunch — 9 to 2.

Reservations: Advisable for dinner.

Wheelchair access: None.



By ANNETTE CHURCHILL

Before reviewing a vegetarian restaurant, I should probably make my position on vegetarianism clear. I love vegetables, and I also love what vegetarians like to call "flesh." I am largely ignorant of vegetarian theory. Like nearly everyone else, I am buffeted by the changing winds of fashion in the pop literature of nutrition. I am old enough to have experienced the cyclic nature of dietary enthusiams. In the forties we read that unenriched white bread was poisonous. Rats fed it were said to go mad. This revelation sparked a certain interest in the nutritional value of our food, which was encouraged further by the fact that we were all eating a little differently than normal because of wartime rationing.

Many of us found that we could get along very well on diets very low in meat, which was rationed. Health food stores of that era dramatized their message by dressing clerks in high-collared pharmacists' tunics. Vegetarian restaurants with walls of white tile and fixtures of gleaming chrome had the ambience of an operating room. They featured entrees of imitation meat made from soy products sculpted into the shape of pork chops, salisbury steak patties, or T-bones, which were uniformly awful.

The swing toward vegetarianism we are experiencing today is much more earnest, it seems to me, and once again it is getting a boost from circumstances that have nothing to do with dietary theory. The fact is, many of us are just plain bored with the meat we are able to buy. Chicken no longer tastes very much like chicken. In fact, sometimes it tastes vaguely of fish. On returning home from dining with friends, we have more than once asked, "Was that beef or lamb we had?" Truly beefy beef is almost a thing of the past. The new, leaner pork may be better for us, but it is woody in texture and insipid in flavor.

Meanwhile, we have become acquainted with ethnic diets low in meat and have learned to enjoy vegetable cookery that enhances the qualities of the vegetables themselves. Following a vegetarian diet is no longer a hardship.

I arrived at Seva Restaurant, 314 East Liberty, at the height of the lunch hour and was told that there would be a ten-minute wait for a table. Seva shares the main floor of the old VFW building on Liberty with Soybean Cellars, a natural food grocery. The restaurant has no place to wait, so I passed the time browsing in the store's book section. Near the front door are shelves and shelves containing the vast literature of food theory. A pronounced paranoia characterizes many of these works. The titles hardly make mouth-watering reading for a customer preparing to eat lunch: *The Mucusless Diet Healing System, Herbal Abortion — Using Plants to Induce Miscarriage, Why Your Stomach Hurts, Body Pollution.* I had just spotted a large chart posted on the door showing a healthy colon accompanied by X-rays of diseased colons, when I was called to my table.

Another world lies behind the doors to Seva. The room, seating fewer than a hundred people, is pretty. Attractive stained glass panels cover the old building's institutional-style windows. Healthy plants hang from the high ceiling. Wallpaper with a design of giant stylized wheat in white and brown brightens the walls. Tables are widely spaced. The predominant sound is the conversation of happy diners. Low-volume chamber music on tape is pleasant and not intrusive.

The menu features vegetarian adaptations of familiar entrees from many cultures. The heartiest are the bean-based dishes like the Mexican burritos. Soups change every day. They are not based on

formulas; each day there are two soups made of what happens to be on hand. On my first visit, I had a vegetable-mushroom soup that was one of the best I've ever had anywhere. Another time I had a creamy vegetable soup that took me a minute to figure out. It was rather porridgey, because, I realized, it had been made with a roux using whole-grain flour. The soup was, in fact, a bowl of thin cereal cooked with a vegetable broth to which chunks of vegetables had been added. I went to work on it, added salt and cayenne pepper from the cluster of condiments in the middle of the table, and came to the conclusion, once I was used to its texture, that it was a good soup, too.

Portions are very large, and half sandwiches are available. The Persea sandwich was light and delicious. It's a tall, open-faced, salad-like sandwich involving alfalfa sprouts, raw mushrooms, onions, and like things served on whole wheat bread and covered by a thick slice of melted cheese. A squash quiche, on another occasion, was less successful. It was watery with whey from having been cooked too long at too high a temperature. The whole wheat crust was soggy. Summer squash itself isn't flavorful enough to add distinction to a quiche, in my opinion. But the generous layer of cheese that formed the top of the quiche was wonderful.

Two splendid entrees that would make it in any restaurant are the smothered burrito and the tempura, a melange of vegetables batter-dipped and deep-fried. The burrito is an enormous white tortilla enclosing a huge portion of refried beans covered with miscellaneous vegetables. An excellent, peppery hot tomato sauce covers the whole thing generously. The burrito is far more than one person can eat alone, and Seva allows customers to share orders if they ask.

The tempura is worth a visit to Seva all by itself. The batter in which the vegetables are dipped before frying is a thin whole wheat coating that adds a wonderfully satisfying, nutty flavor to carrot sticks, bouquets of broccoli and cauliflower, one-inch cross-sections of corn on the cob, and onion rings. The vegetables come out free of any greasiness and cracking crisp. The onion rings are infinitely superior to any I've ever had. The whole wheat batter adds a new and enhancing dimension which elevates this dish over even the excellent Italian version, fritto misto. The very sweet, pineapple-flavored dipping sauce accompanying the tempura seemed inappropriate to me.

Salads at Seva are excellent. All dressings are home made; both the house dressing and the garlic dressing, made with fresh garlic, are outstanding. The herbed yogurt dressing is pleasantly flavored, but thin — a good choice for dieters.

Dessert offerings include Haagen-Dazs ice cream and cheesecake. There is a terrific homemade apple crisp.

At Seva one senses the presence of a talented cook. No tired formulas are employed here. It takes talent to come up with good soups from an ever-changing assortment of ingredients. The decision to use fresh garlic tells us the cook knows and cares about the difference this makes to the quality of salad dressings. The quality of the tempura is more than a matter of the recipe. Its fresh taste tells us the cook has judgement and knows when to change the cooking oil. All in all, I enjoyed my meals at Seva. I even acquired a taste for herb teas. □

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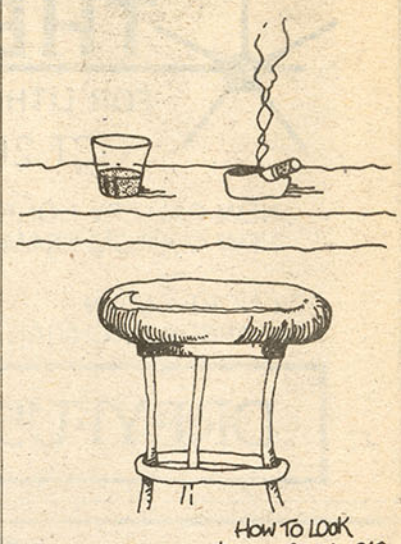

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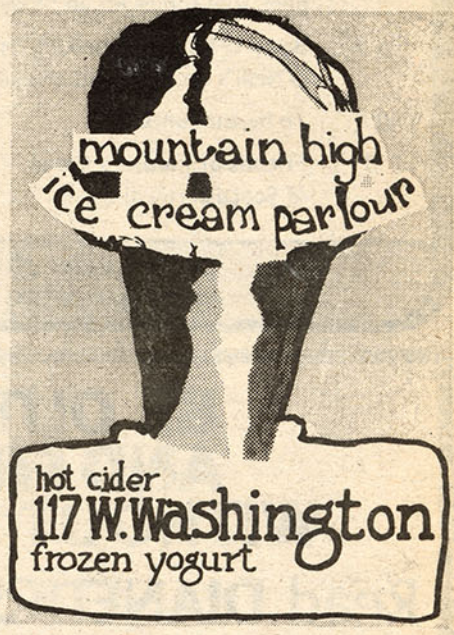

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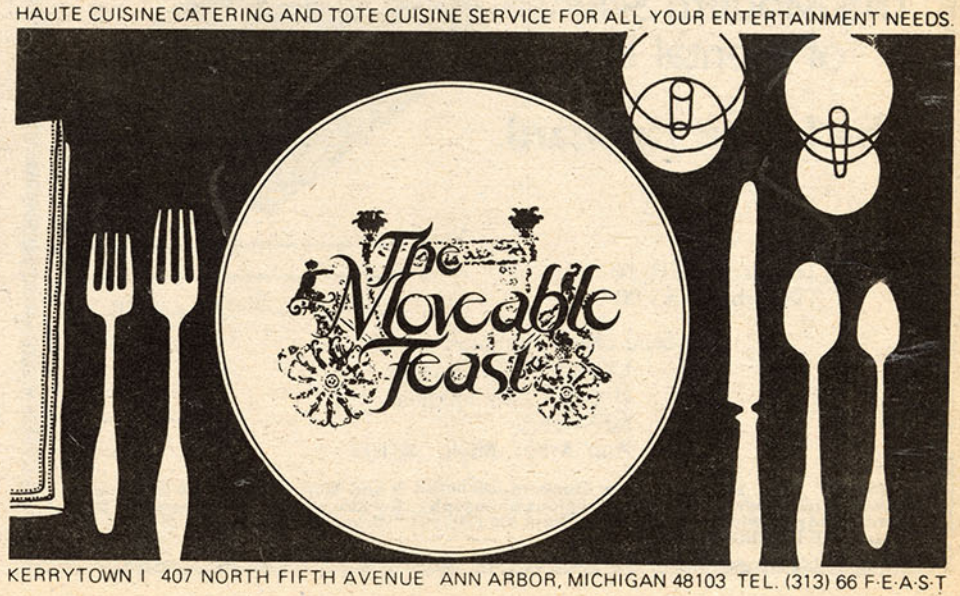

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15	**Rosalie Sorrels, Teri Garthwaite, and Bobbi Louise Hawkins** – Sorrels, a folk-singer, Garthwaite, a rock singer, and Hawkins, a poet, join forces for an "Evening of Song and Story."
16, 17	**Barry O'Neill** – A benefit for injured singer Michael Cooney. O'Neill's droll wit and unusual material is always fun.
30, 1	To be announced.
7, 8	**Friends of Fiddler's Green** – British Isles music from this band of Scottish rowdies.

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CALENDAR

1 THURSDAY

Ann Arbor Public Library Film Series

Two famous American photographers are the subjects of the films. In *Never Give Up,* Imogen Cunningham describes her life as a photographer from 1901 to 1975. *Uncommon Images* shows James Van DerZee reminiscing about his life as a photographer in Harlem.

12:10 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Public Library, South Fifth Avenue at William. Free.

Soundstage Coffeehouse

The University Activities Center has organized the Soundstage Coffeehouse as a performance outlet for local artists, and starting with its opening on November 1, the coffeehouse will offer weekly entertainment, food, and wine in the relaxing atmosphere of the Michigan Union's University Club.

Performers interested in appearing at the Soundstage Coffeehouse may make audition arrangements by calling UAC at 763-1107.

8 p.m., University Club, Michigan Union. Admission 75¢ for students, $1.00 for non-students. The coffeehouse will be held every Thursday evening throughout the year.

2 FRIDAY

aMaizin' Blues

This talented show choir specializes in zippy presentations of popular music and in medleys of favorite Michigan songs. Attired in the maize and blue, the group smoothly blends a variety of tempos with innovative narration to produce a fast-paced show which should particularly appeal to Michigan enthusiasts. The choir was founded in 1974 under the auspices of the U-M Alumni Association in cooperation with the School of Music.

8 p.m., Power Center. Tickets $3.50 and $4.50, PTP Ticket Office, Michigan League.

University Chamber Orchestra

Paul Makanowitzky conducts the University Chamber Orchestra in Schubert's Symphony No. 5, Ravel's Ma Mere L'Oye, Brahms' Variations on a Theme by Haydn, and Rossini's Overture to *La Cenerentola.*

8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free.

4 SUNDAY

Organ Recital by Marilyn Mason

Four November organ recitals celebrate the installation of a new organ for Genesis of Ann Arbor, that unique organization of St. Clare of Assisi Episcopal Church and Reform Temple Beth Emeth which share a common house of worship.

The new organ, built by the Steiner Company of Louisville, Kentucky, has 11 pipe ranks and 637 pipes. Phares Steiner, the principal designer, holds a master's degree in organ performance from The University of Michigan. This is his first organ built in Michigan.

The opening recital will be given by well-known U-M organist and Professor of Music Marilyn Mason.

7 p.m., St. Clare/Beth Emeth, 2309 Packard. Ample parking at the rear. Light refreshments. Free.

"Burn!" at Cinema II

Directed by Gillo Pontecorvo, 1970. This was the most difficult movie Marlon Brando ever made, mainly due to strife between the actor and Pontecorvo (*Battle of Algiers*) and Evaristo Marquez, an illiterate Caribbean native who turns in a moving performance as the leader of an island rebellion in the 1830's. Brando is great as a British secret agent who first provokes the rebellion against Portugese colonial rule in the interests of British trade, and then betrays Marquez when the revolution turns against British interests. The theme of imperialist exploitation is drawn in marked analogy to our Vietnam experience, and the film is almost overwhelming in its visual and political-moral impact.

– Harvey Hamburgh

7 and 9 p.m., Auditorium A, Angell Hall. $1.50.

Cloud Gate Dance Theatre

A modern dance company from Taiwan which blends Western technique (principally that of Martha Graham) with Chinese themes and costumes. *N.Y. Times* critic Anna Kisselgoff describes the combination as "stunning." Now on their first U.S. tour.

8 p.m., Power Center. Tickets $3.50 - $7.00, University Musical Society, Burton Tower, 665-3717.

4 SUNDAY

"Rose Marie"

Jeanette McDonald and Nelson Eddy star in this film about an opera star searching for her long-lost brother, a criminal who has fled to the wilds of Canada. The Mountie whose help she enlists gets his man and wins her heart as well. In case you're too young to remember Jeanette and Nelson from the Thirties, the *New York Times* calls them "a team that provided celluloid escapism at its best; lavishly mounted, grandly romantic, beautifully melodic films that captured the heart of America.

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This benefit showing for the Michigan Theater renovation project begins with an overture on the mighty Barton Theater Organ.

7:30 p.m. organ overture, 8 p.m. film showing. Michigan Theater, E. Liberty at Maynard. $2.

5 MONDAY

Environmental Film Series — Alternative Energy/Appropriate Technology

Five short films include E. P. Schumacher (*Small Is Beautiful*) on 'intermediate technology' as an alternative to capital-intensive high technology; solar homes in Canada's snow belt; an Ontario home heated through warmth from the ground below frost level; the automotive use of methane gas (generated from animal wastes); and a Montana group which uses theater and song to promote energy conservation. Presented by the Ecology Center and the Ann Arbor Public Library.

7:30 p.m., Meeting Room of the Public Library, S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free.

5 MONDAY through 7 WEDNESDAY

Martha Graham Dance Company

Martha Graham, founder of this troupe, made the words "modern dance" meaningful. Working with American and Greek legend, combining her talents with those of famous composers and sculptors, Graham has created a body of works which will undoubtedly remain classics for the ages. Presented by The University Musical Society.

8 p.m., Power Center. Tickets $6.50 - $10.00, University Musical Society, Burton Tower, 665-3717.

6 TUESDAY

"Grand Hotel" at Cinema Guild

Directed by Edmund Goulding, 1932. It's as if all the great stars of the thirties were thrown together to vie with one another for acting honors in the Grand Hotel, Berlin. The main plot pits Greta Garbo as a pampered Russian ballerina against John Barrymore, a suave jewel thief, but Lionel Barrymore (as a dying man on a last holiday) and Joan Crawford (as a seductive secretary who exploits her charms amid the aristocracy) virtually steal the show in their secondary roles. Also featuring Wallace Beery and Lewis Stone, who sits in the lobby and tiresomely, ironically intones, "People come and go, but nothing ever happens in the Grand Hotel." — *Harvey Hamburgh*

7 and 9:05 p.m., Old Architecture Auditorium on Monroe. $1.50.

7 WEDNESDAY

"Viridiana" (Luis Bunuel, 1961)
"Tristana" (Luis Bunuel, 1970)
at Ann Arbor Film Cooperative

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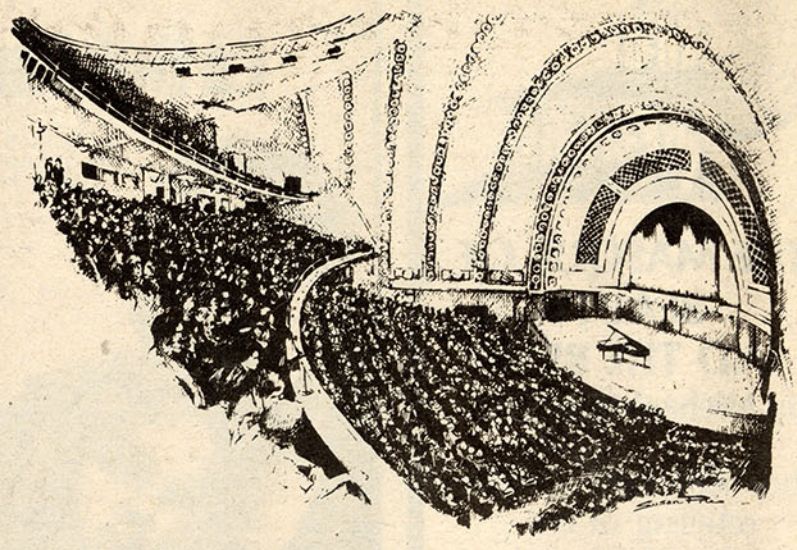

Special Concerts

CHINESE ACROBATS Nov. 3
These spectacular Chinese Acrobats of Taiwan must be seen to be believed — and all who were awed by their breathtaking acts here in 1978 will agree that their super-human feats are not to be missed. A company of 65, including musicians, with elaborate and colorful costumes. Sat. 8:30, Hill Aud.

FRED WARING SHOW Nov. 16
Fred Waring — born in 1900 — the man who has helped to shape the musical content of this century through radio, recordings, movies, Broadway, television, and the concert stage. This musical variety extravaganza provides incomparable entertainment for all ages by this master showman and his Young Pennsylvanians. Fri. 8:30, Hill Aud.

RAMPAL and LAGOYA Feb. 18
Flute & Guitar
An extra-special special! Two Frenchmen renowned for their artistry and complete mastery of their instruments — Jean-Pierre Rampal, "the flute king," and Alexandre Lagoya, "guitarist supreme" — team for an evening which promises the utmost in musical satisfaction. Be sure to obtain tickets early for this one! Mon. 8:30, Hill Aud.

FOUNDERS DAY Feb. 24
To commemorate this important day in the history of the Musicial Society, Donald Bryant will conduct The Festival Chorus in George Frederick Handel's marvelous oratorio, "Israel in Egypt." This concert is a "bonus" for Choral Union series subscribers, with general admission tickets at $3 for other concertgoers. Sun. 4:00, Hill Aud.

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CALENDAR /continued

Two brilliant, thematically related films by Bunuel, both made in Spain and starring Fernando Rey with actresses of strikingly similar features, Silvia Pinal and Catherine Deneuve. In both films the innocence of these cool, blonde beauties is corrupted through contact with Rey, a well-intentioned but libidinous aging aristocrat. *Viridiana*, the stronger film, features the famous Leonardesque banquet of the beggars, which culminates in rape and murder. *Tristana* appears almost as a sequel but is milder in effect, though no less disturbing, and beautifully photographed in color. – *Harvey Hamburgh*

"Viridiana," 7 p.m. only; "Tristana," 8:45 only, Natural Science Auditorium. $1.50; $2.50 double-feature.

7 WEDNESDAY through 9 FRIDAY

Poetry Readings

Three well-known poets, representing a wide range of contemporary styles, will present public readings of their works in conjunction with the English Department's Fall Poetry Workshop, organized by poet and U-M faculty member Steven Dunning.

On the 7th, Diane Wakowski, one of the outstanding national women poets, will read from her works. Wakowski lives in East Lansing and teaches at Michigan State.

On the 8th, Herb Scott, currently at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, will present selections from his poems.

Concluding the series on Friday will be Robert Hass, a poet of international reputation.

8:00 p.m., Pendleton Room, Michigan Union. Free. Registration in the Poetry Workshop, November 8 - 11, is open to all members of the community. For information on fees and availability of space, telephone 764-9208.

8 THURSDAY

10th Anniversary Sale at Kitchen Port

Ten years ago today, Kitchen Port opened its door for business in a basement location on Detroit Street, near the Farmer's Market. It was the first "gourmet shop" in the area, and its goal was to offer for sale everything needed for the cooking and serving of food, as well as advice to match.

There will be free demonstrations all day, complimentary gifts for each customer, free refreshments and coffee, and door prizes, in addition to 20% reductions on nearly everything in the store.

9:30 - 5:30, Kitchen Port, 415 North Fifth Avenue, Kerrytown.

Ann Arbor Public Library Film Series

"Antonia," a 58-minute film produced by Judy Collins, sets forth the story of Antonia Brico, history's first woman conductor, in her struggle to gain recognition in her craft.

12:10 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Public Library, South Fifth Avenue and William. Free.

Collegium Musicum: Early Music from Poland (1200 - 1700)

8 p.m., School of Music Recital Hall. Free.

8 THURSDAY and 11 SUNDAY

"Broadway" with The Acting Company

Abbott and Dunning's 1920's saga of fledgling cabaret performers and bootlegging gangsters is set in the back room of a New York speak-easy. The production dramatically captures the false glamor of the Prohibition Era, complete with music, a hoofer, a blowsy chanteuse, a vengeful chorine and a ruthless gangster. This is the play that triggered the entire gangster movement in American Movies.

The Acting Company's revival of "Broadway" has received excellent reviews from the Washington critics in its October run there. Presented by PTP and the National Endowment for the Arts.

8 p.m., Thursday; 2:00 p.m., Sunday. Power Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets, $4 - $8, PTP Ticket Office in the Michigan League, 764-0450.

9 FRIDAY

Bandorama

The U-M Marching Band, Jazz Band, Symphony Band, Concert Band, and The Friars all join together to show just how versatile bands can be.

8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $5, $4, $2, available by mail order (include self-addressed, stamped envelope, addressed to Bandorama, School of Music, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109) or at Hill Auditorium box office from November 5.

"Elizabeth I" with The Acting Company

In this second production of The Acting Company's four-day Ann Arbor engagement, it presents Paul Foster's 1973 award-winning drama of Elizabeth's reign.

The play focuses on a bedraggled troupe of touring actors who bring the major events of Elizabeth's reign to life through the recreation of a multitude of characters. The English Fleet and the Spanish Armada are also represented in this bawdy portrayal of the Elizabethan Age.

8 p.m., Power Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets $4 - $8, PTP Ticket Office in the Michigan League, 764-0450.

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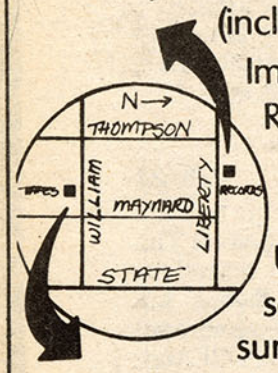

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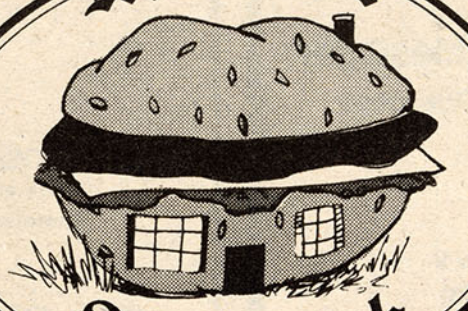

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Astronomer Jim Loudon is the main item, but the NASA mission film "Apollo 12 – Pinpoint for Science" will also be shown to commemorate the tenth anniversary of man's *second* landing on the Moon this month. Jupiter has four moons the size of planets. Two are bigger than Mercury, and all four are bigger than Pluto. The two Voyager spacecraft, which explored them close up for the first time earlier this year, reveal them as worlds so different from those seen in previous space exploration as to make Earth, Venus, and Mars look like twin sisters. Some aren't even made of rock; Callisto, for instance, is made largely of ice, a 3000-mile snowball, with a surface totally covered by craters over 3 billion years old. One crater is more than 1800 miles across – the largest single geographic object in the Solar System. Jupiter's bright orange rings, discovered by Voyager 1, are so different from Saturn's that scientists have trouble understanding how they can exist at all.

7:30 p.m., Modern Languages Building, E. Washington at Ingalls. Auditorium 3. Free.

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9 FRIDAY through 11 SUNDAY

"Heidi" — Ann Arbor Recreation Department Junior Theatre

This production of Johanna Spyri's classic tale is about a little girl of the Swiss Alps who helps bring an invalid companion back to health. It has been adapted for the stage by June Walker Rogers. Directed by Tom Simonds, the production may delight the young and bring back fond memories for their parents.

Players in the production (7th through 9th graders) have spent two nights a week rehearsing for the play this fall. It is a fully costumed and staged production.

7 p.m. Friday; 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Saturday; 1:30 p.m. Sunday. Pioneer High School Little Theatre. Advance tickets by mail (Junior Theatre Tickets, Ann Arbor Recreation Department, 2250 South Seventh, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103), or through TIX/INFO at Jacobsons "J" Shop on State Street (Monday - Saturday 11 a.m. 3 p.m.). Adults, $1.50, children 75¢. (50¢ for groups of 10 or more children). For further information, call 994-2326.

Audree Levy's Invitational Art Fair

Over 250 artists and craftsmen from a 26-state area participate in Audree Levy's annual Ann Arbor Winter Art Fair.

10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sunday. University of Michigan Track and Tennis Building at Ferry Field. $1.00 admission, children under 10 free with an adult. Parking at Ferry Field, located on State Street past Hoover.

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9 FRIDAY through 13 TUESDAY (no sale Sunday)

Book Sale — Friends of the Ann Arbor Public Library

This annual fund-raising event for the Ann Arbor Public Library is a booklover's paradise. For sale are current hardcover and paperback books in fiction and non-fiction, children's books, cookbooks, foreign-language books, records, literary reviews, and more. During the sale's first two days, prices run from 50¢ for novels and paperbacks to $1 for hardcovers. On Monday they are reduced to 25¢ and 50¢; Tuesday brings special discounts on everything.

According to Publicity Chairperson Marjorie Reade, the best pickin's are on the opening day. To shop then, you must be a member of the Friends of the Library. Memberships in this non-profit civic organization are available at the door for $5.00.

Proceeds from the sale have been used in the past for a variety of Library projects – furniture and carpeting for the Maple Village Branch Library, summer programs for young people, garden sculpture and landscaping, and an analysis of the benefits of computer usage to the Library.

5:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. Friday (members only); 9 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Monday; 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Tuesday. Ann Arbor Public Library, South Fifth Avenue at William.

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10 SATURDAY

Ann Arbor Chamber Orchestra Society

This second program in the Chamber Orchestra Society's "Symphony Series" includes Mozart's Overture, "La finta giardiniera," Lully's Italian Suite, Rossini's Overture, "La scala di Seta," and his complete short opera (in English) "The Marriage Contract."

The Chamber Orchestra Society has developed a blend of light music and luscious food to please both ear and palate. "Symphony Concerts" are presented in the auditorium of the Michigan Theatre. During the long, European-style intermission, ensembles provide background music in the romantically decorated theater lobby. Gourmet refreshments and beverages prepared by Ann Arbor's Moveable Feast will be available for purchase during these leisurely intermissions.

8:45 p.m., Michigan Theater, East Liberty at Maynard. Tickets $6.00; call 996-0066.

"The White Devil" with The Acting Company

Director Michael Kahn and The Acting Company have retranslated John Webster's Jacobean drama "The White Devil" into modern terms, linking the theatricality and drama of Webster's text to the extravagant cultural images surrounding us today. The play becomes a youth-oriented world of drugs, music, and sexual display pulsating with the blare of rock music, nudity, and the look of bizarre fashions and design. It is a performance freely using the imagery of punk rock and the Manson Murders as vehicles for the Webster text. For mature audiences only.

Note the 10 p.m. curtain. Power Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets $4 - $8, PTP Ticket Office in the Michigan League, 764-0450.

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December 7-9 Fri.&Sat. at 8pm-Sun. at 3pm

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Featured: Members of The Ann Arbor Cantata Singers
Choreographed by Elizabeth Weil Bergmann
January 26 at 3pm & 8pm

Orff's
Carmina Burana
Dance Soloists: Christine Dakin (courtesy of Martha Graham Dance Co.)
Gay Delanghe, Willie Feuer, Susan Matheke and Gus Solomons Jr.
Choreographer: Elizabeth Weil Bergmann - Conductor: Thomas Hilbish*
*U of M Chamber Choir & U of M Philharmonia Orchestra
March 13-16. Thu,Fri.&Sat. at 8pm-Sun at 3pm

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Saturday, Nov. 10 1:30 & 3:30 p.m.
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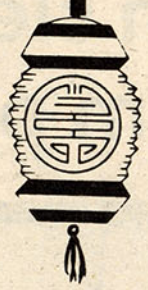

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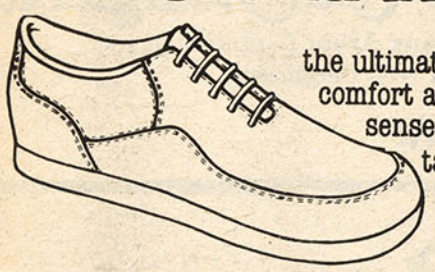
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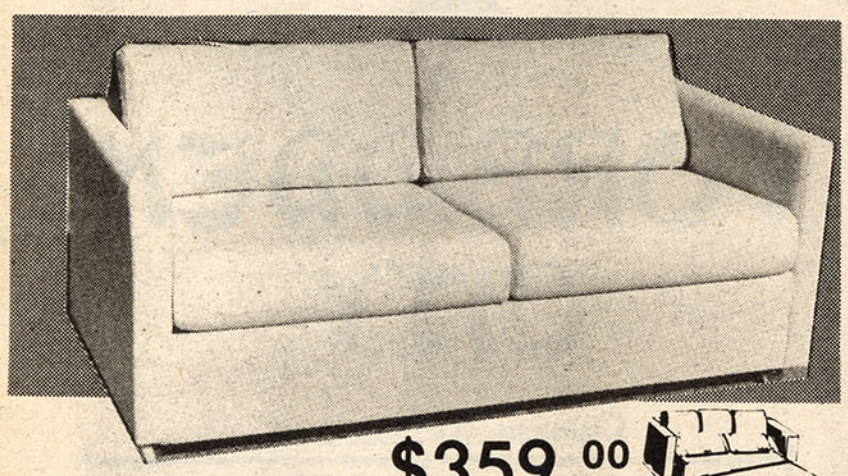
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CALENDAR/continued

11 SUNDAY

November Nature Walk — Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Department

Several local weeds and grasses make nice material for dried flower arrangements. Bring some garden shears and a collecting bag or basket. The group will collect several species at the park and examine various dried plants from around the county.

10 a.m. Meet at the Country Barn on Platt Road, just south of Washtenaw.

The Antiques Market

Over 225 dealers in antiques and collectibles, guaranteed for authenticity by promoter Margaret Brusher.

8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Road Pleasant Lake Road. $1 admission. Free parking.

Ann Arbor Cantata Singers

Poulenc's "Gloria," J.S. Bach's "Magnificat," and Stravinsky's "Symphony of Psalms" – choral masterpieces of three different eras performed by this respected local group directed by Bradley Bloom.

4 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom. Tickets, $4 general admission, $2 for students, at Tix/Info in Jacobson's "J" Shop on State St.

"The Decameron" at Cinema II

Directed by Pier Paolo Pasolini, 1971. The late novelist-filmmaker Pasolini plays the painter Giotto in this film of ten episodes from Boccaccio's classic. The film is a kind of manifesto of sexual liberation in the thirteenth century. Its blatant vulgarity and riotous pace are quite a contrast to the austerity of Pasolini's other memorable retelling of a literary work of grandeur, *The Gospel According to St. Matthew.* In both films Pasolini insisted on employing a non-professional cast. This one is not for tender sensibilities. – *Harvey Hamburgh*

9 p.m. only, Auditorium A, Angell Hall. $1.50.

Organ recital by Donald Williams

Williams, organist and concertmaster at Zion Lutheran Church, teaches at Concordia College.

7 p.m., St. Clare/Beth Emeth, 2309 Packard. Free.

12 MONDAY

Collegium Musicum Concert/Demonstration: "The Ud in North African Music"

The ud is the Arabic short lute from the medieval period. Also known as the al'ud, from whence, via the Spanish "laud," we get the word "lute." Fawzi Elgiernazi, ud player, joins Professor William Malm, who does the lecture honors.

8 p.m., Stearns Building, U-M North Campus. Free.

14 WEDNESDAY through 17 SATURDAY

"Tango" — U-M Department of Theatre and Drama Showcase Production

Playwright Slawomir Mrozek confronts the major social and philosophical issues of this century in the context of an absurdly-drawn eastern European family.

8 p.m., Trueblood Theater. $2 general admission tickets go on sale at the PTP ticket office (Michigan League) October 29.

15 THURSDAY

Ann Arbor Public Library Film Series

The story of Georgia O'Keefe, from the series "The Originals: Women in art," is the first and only film this renowned painter has allowed to be made of her life and work. Shot at her home in New Mexico.

12:10 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Public Library, S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free.

15 THURSDAY through 18 SUNDAY

La Bohème

Opera for English speakers from the U-M School of Music Opera Theater! Gustav Meier conducts this English rendition of Giacomo Puccini's "La Boheme," one of the best-loved operas of the nineteenth-century repertory. It paints in vivid musical colors the bohemian life of the Parisian garrets, as it tells the love story of Mimi and Rodolfo.

8 p.m., Thursday through Saturday; 3 p.m. Sunday. Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre. Tickets $5, available at PTP Ticket Office, Michigan League, Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

16 FRIDAY

"Old House Game" — Workshop

This one-day workshop, sponsored by the City and County Historic Commissions and the Bentley Library, is designed to give old-house buffs the skills necessary for researching old houses.

Panel members include Richard Neumann, architect; Mary Jo Pugh, Bentley Library archivist; and Peter Schmitt, archivist, Western Michigan University.

8:45 a.m. - 3 p.m., Bentley Historical Li-

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brary, North Campus. For registration information, telephone the Kempf House at 761-4510 or the Bentley Library, 764-3482.

16 FRIDAY through 18 SUNDAY

"In the Dark" — The New Musket Company

Three people, each unknown to the other two, receive letters declaring them heir to a large sum of money. On a dark, stormy evening, they find themselves calling at a house in Vermont per instructions they have received by letter. Only one heir will receive the million-dollar bequest. As the plot thickens, nothing is as it appears to be. We are promised "chills, thrills, and melodic songs with wit and spirit."

8 p.m., Friday and Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday. Power Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets $4.50 and $4 at Ticket Central, Michigan Union.

18 SUNDAY

"Sharks, Loaches and Eels" — Ann Arbor Aquarium Club

This newly-formed club invites the public to its November meeting. "Sharks, Loaches and Eels" is a slide show put together by the San Diego Aquarium Society (Loaches are small snake-like eels.)

2 p.m. - 5 p.m., Community Room, Briarwood Mall. For more information on club activities, telephone Pamela Kehes at 971-1547.

19 MONDAY

"An American in Paris"

Gene Kelly and Leslie Caron in the 1951 musical with highly imaginative dance numbers. When MGM compiled its film anthology "That's Entertainment," it declared this to be its all-time best musical ever. A benefit for the Michigan Theater renovation project.

7:30 organ overture, 8 p.m. film showing. Michigan Theater East Liberty at Maynard. $2.

Environmental Film Series

Three films on natural lifestyles and agriculture include a visit with famed back-to-the-earth couple Helen and Scott Nearing, a report on organic farmers and agribusiness, and a portrayal of the American small farmer's struggle to stay on the land.

7:30 p.m., Meeting Room of the Ann Arbor Public Library, S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free.

20 TUESDAY

"The Jazz Singer" (Alan Crosland, 1928)

"Singing in the Rain" (Gene Kelly and Stanley Donen, 1952) at Cinema Guild

A double-feature of the first "talkie," starring Al Jolson, and one of MGM's finest musicals, "Singing in the Rain," a comedy by Comden and Green about the tribulations of Hollywood studios and actors in the conversion from silent to sound films. Donald O'Connor, Jean Hagen, Debbie Reynolds, Cyd Charisse and Gene Kelly sing and dance their way right into your heart. Kelly's immortal title number is wonderful perhaps because its expression of innocence and joy seem so distant in 1979.

– Harvey Hamburgh

"Jazz Singer," 7 p.m.; "Singing in the Rain," 9 p.m., Old Architecture Auditorium on Monroe. $1.50, or $2.50 double-feature.

Syntagma Musicum in concert

Curios to discover and recreate unknown and long-forgotten works, these musicians have amassed a large collection of manuscripts and instruments since 1963. Under Kees Otten, founder and director, they will present "Anno Domini 1501" – compositions by masters from the Low Countries.

8:30 p.m., Rackham Auditorium, Tickets $4 - $12, University Musical Society, Burton Tower, 665-3717.

25 SUNDAY

Nature Walk — Park Lyndon

For the early Michigan homesteaders, the land that is now Park Lyndon presented insurmountable difficulties. Settled in 1836, the land was eventually returned to the wild, but not without traces of those who tried to settle. Foundations, old roadways, and vegetation patterns help Park Naturalist Matt Heumann attempt to examine some of Park Lyndon's obscure past. Be sure to dress warmly. Tea and coffee will be served.

10 a.m. Meet at the eastern most parking lot at Park Lyndon on North Territorial Road, one mile east of M-52.

Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra concert

This second concert of the orchestra's 51st season has special appeal for children. John Henkel narrates Poulenc's "Story of Babar, the Little Elephant." Also on the program: Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue," with Louis Nagel, pianist; "The Orchestra Song," arr. Schumann, and Sousa's "Stars and Stripes Forever."

3:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free.

Organ recital by Thomas Strobe

Strobe is organist and choirmaster at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.

7 p.m., St. Clare's/Beth Emeth, 2309 Packard. Free.

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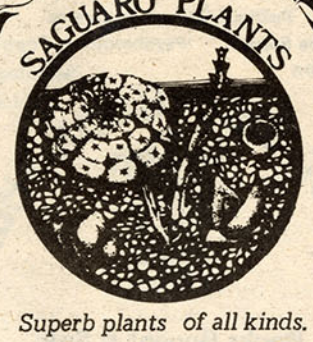

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CALENDAR /continued

28 WEDNESDAY

Japanese Classical Music

Presented by Professor William B. Malm with his Japanese Music Study Group. These concerts usually mix music with Professor Malm's entertaining and informative commentary; they draw a steady, interested clientele. A good way to discover the music of Japan.

8 p.m., Rackham Hall. Free.

Dance Department Recital — Excerpts from Orff's "Carmina Burana"

Elizabeth Weil Bergmann choreographed a stunning version of this Orff classic in 1975. Her dances provided a powerful visual counterpart to Orff's medieval-style songs. Approximately 15 of the 26 dances of Carmina will be shown. Bob Pazur plays the Orff score at the piano. (The department will stage the entire "Carmina Burana" in March in Power Center.)

8 p.m., Dance Building, North University Court (behind the Central Campus Recreation Building). Free.

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28 WEDNESDAY through 2 DECEMBER, SUNDAY

"Richard III" — PTP Guest Artist Series

"Richard III," the last play of Shakespeare's history cycle, chronicles the tumultuous story of a wicked and ruthless king. Richard methodically bends the line of succession away from its rightful course, only to find himself unable to rest on an unjustly gained throne.

Guest Artist Nicholas Pennell, who portrays Richard III, played the title role in "Richard II" at the Stratford Festival this season.

8 p.m., November 28 - December 1, with a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, December 2. Tickets, PTP Ticket Office, Michigan League, and at all Hudsons outlets.

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30 FRIDAY

AstroFest Program 85: "Voyager Report III"

Imagine a world covered with red radioactive salt, surrounded by a thin atmosphere that freezes solid and falls onto the salt four times a week. It has volcanoes that hurl sulfurous solid particles 200 miles above its surface and spew out gases billions of miles beyond that – some of which get heated to 200 million degrees fahrenheit on the way. It's connected to a nearby, far larger world (big enough to swallow a thousand Earths) by a natural electric current half a million miles in total length and over five million amperes strong. And it's buried in a radiation environment so lethal it would kill an unprotected human in about two hours. Imagine another world, near the first one but vastly different from it, locked in the grip of a permanent global ice age – covered by glaciers 200 miles deep, with a surface utterly flat but seamed by thousands of mysterious dark lines like the "canals" that astronomers once thought (erroneously) appeared on Mars.

Science fiction? No. These places actually exist; they're two of the planet-sized moons of Jupiter, respectively Io and Europa, first revealed to our knowledge by the two Voyager spacecraft earlier this year.

– Jim Loudon

7:30 p.m., Modern Languages Building, Auditorium 3. Free.

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30 FRIDAY through 2 DECEMBER SUNDAY

Handel's "Messiah"

A deeply-rooted Ann Arbor tradition continues as the Choral Union, under Donald Bryant's direction, once again heralds the beginning of the Christmas season with Handel's masterpiece. Soloists are Elizabeth Parcells, soprano; Victoria Grof, contralto; David Eisler, tenor; and Donald Bell, bass.

8:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday; 2:30 p.m. Sunday. Hill Auditorium. Tickets $2 - $6, University Musical Society, Burton Tower, 665-3717.

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30 FRIDAY through 24 DECEMBER MONDAY

Ann Arbor Art Association Holiday Gift Sale

A holiday sale of the work of fifteen selected Michigan artists. Jewelry, weaving, pottery, stained and blown glass and soft sculpture are some of the media to be represented.

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Ann Arbor Art Association, 117 West Liberty.

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1 DECEMBER SATURDAY

"St. Joe's Rings in the Holidays"

The fourth annual benefit for St. Joseph Mercy Hospital will be a gala event at the Michigan League, featuring a champagne reception, special entertainment, dinner, and dancing to famed society band leader Lester Lanin's orchestra.

Funds derived from past benefits have gone toward the purchase of advanced hospital equipment, such as the CAT scanner, a machine which provides cross-sectional views of all parts of the body without x-ray or surgery. Proceeds from this year's event will be used to cover equipment for various departments: Maternity, Newborn Nursery, Neurosurgery, Orthopedics, Nuclear Medicine, and the Blood Bank.

The benefit features cabaret-style entertainment in the various dining areas: a Mexican Mariachi band; Willis Patterson and Jacqueline Green (both of the U-M School of Music) singing excerpts from "Porgy and Bess"; Jim Dapogny, jazz pianist; "Fat Bob" Taylor (of WAAM Radio) singing selections from "Fiddler on the Roof"; and vocalists Irene Connors (U-M Drama Department) and John McCollum (U-M School of Music) in a medley of Irish songs.

8 p.m., Michigan League. Tickets: Patrons, $150; Special Patrons, $500; Benefactors, $1,000; Holiday Hosts, $2,500. Benefactors, Special Patrons and Holiday Hosts will be guests at an elegant cocktail party preceding the champagne reception. In addition, Holiday Hosts receive eight tickets for the entire evening. For tickets or further information, call 572-4040, or write to the St. Joseph Mercy Development Fund Office, P.O. Box 995, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106.

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1 DECEMBER SATURDAY and 2 SUNDAY

University Artists and Craftsmen Guild Christmas Art Fair

Here, perhaps, is the answer to your holiday gift-giving problems, wrapped up neatly in the U-M Coliseum. Hand-crafted gifts of all descriptions are on sale, made by Guild artists.

In addition to the usual large variety of crafts, there will be a Designer Craft Showroom to demonstrate how the work of Guild artists fits into a home setting. The Showroom, an invitational exhibit arranged by a professional interior designer, will have selections from the Fair's artists and craftsmen.

In keeping with the Christmas season, small musical ensembles will perform, and a demonstration of spinning and weaving will take place both days. A children's area will have art activities for young ones, allowing parents to look through the Fair by themselves. Seasonal foods will be served at a booth in the Coliseum foyer.

10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Saturday; 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday. U-M Coliseum, corner of Hill and Fifth Ave.

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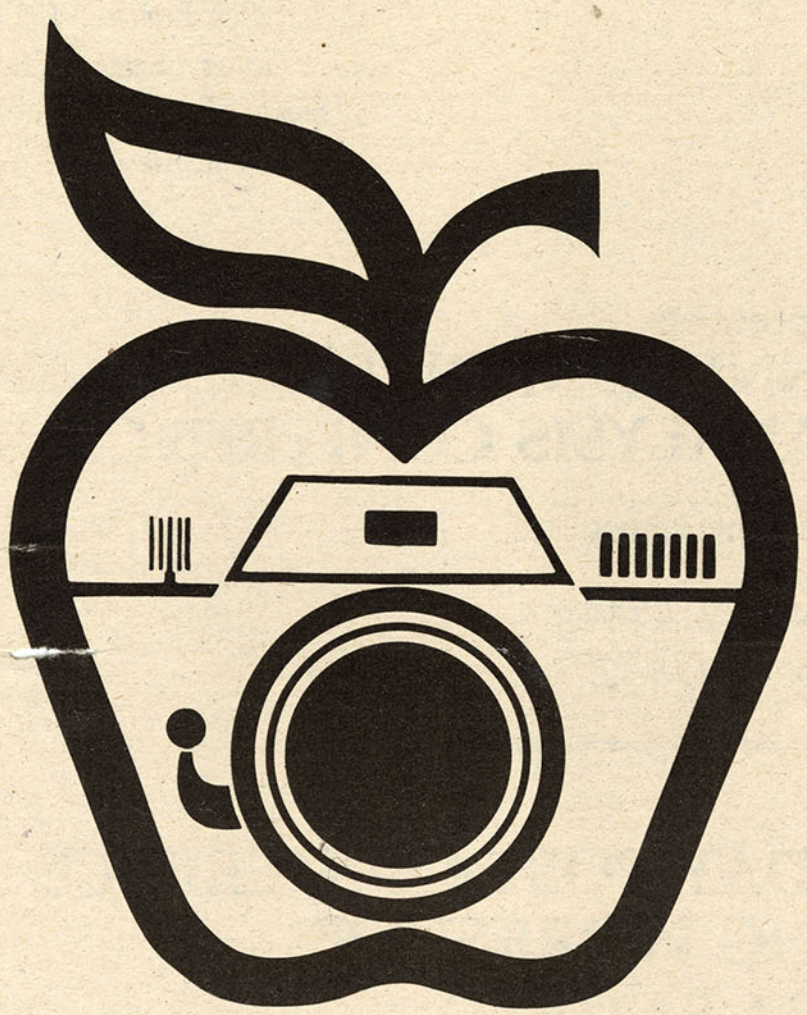
April 26 & 27, 1980

In addition to these programs, Spectrum Psychological Services sponsors a wide variety of workshops for mental health professionals, a Friday night lecture series in Ann Arbor, and ongoing training, treatment, and drug abuse counseling services. For information or referral assistance, call Spectrum Psychological Services, 6869 Marshall Rd. Dexter, Mich. 48130 (313) 426-2334.



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